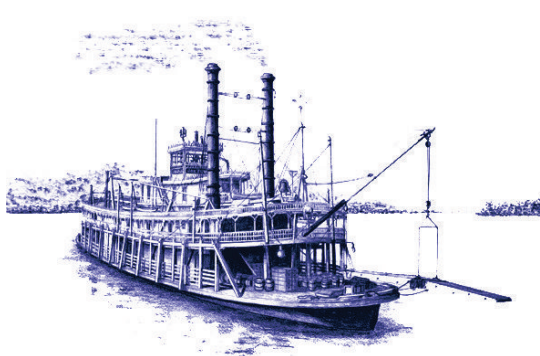




THE MADISON COURIER

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2025

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SPORTS
SOUTHWESTERN'S
CONNOR JOHNSON
CONSOLES SHAW'S
LEO GARCIA AFTER
REBELS SCORE 3-2
WIN OVER
HILLTOPPERS AT
SECTIONAL,
PAGE B1

Council adopts Riverfront Development zone

Vote 4-2 with Krebs,
Thevenow opposing,
Wilber absent

BY MARK CAMPBELL

After months of study, numerous meetings and hours and hours of public feedback — as well as private

calls, emails and petitions — Madison City Council voted 4-2 on Tuesday night to create a new Riverfront Development zone on the riverfront. The vote saw council members Lucy Dattilo, Joshua Schafer, Joel Storm and Jim Bartlett vote in favor of the amendment while Patrick Thevenow and Carla Krebs opposed with Josh Wilber absent from the meeting.

The ordinance, which included a series of amendments adopted unanimously at Tuesday's council meeting following a special committee meeting just last week, will impact a three block area along Vaughn Drive from Jefferson Street to St. Michaels Avenue by allowing a list of permitted uses as infill on former industrial property that has sat as idle greenspace in recent years.

Mayor Bob Courtney championed the zoning amendment as a way to address what he and some others have called a blighted area that could be developed for uses that will benefit the downtown business district and the community as a whole by providing housing and or business. Those who oppose the zoning change — most vocally District 1 Councilman Thevenow among the

elected officials — as well as dozens of residents who have showed up in force at multiple meetings, claim the amendment is a ploy to locate a multi-story apartment building at the corner of Jefferson Street and Vaughn Drive that will detract from the beauty of the area and lead to added congestion in an area

SEE **COUNCIL/PAGE A8**



Bob Demaree

Contractors from All-Star Paving work at the intersection of Broadway and Main streets as part of the city's current road improvements. Weather permitting, milling and paving from Mill Street to St. Michaels Avenue will begin Oct. 20. The current project has focused on Mill Street to Broadway Street and includes the addition of bump outs at Vine, Elm and Broadway streets.

City to expedite East Main Street work

BY BOB DEMAREE

The announcement that milling and paving on Main Street will be extended this year from Broadway Street to St. Michaels Avenue not only resurfaces that portion of the road sooner than

anticipated but also decreases the cost for all of the work by an estimated \$3 million. Mayor Bob Courtney said at Monday's Board of Public Works and Safety meeting that Main Street in the city's central business district wasn't

expected to take place for another eight years but now it will happen in a few weeks. "We are excited about the opportunity to expand this current phase of our

SEE **CITY/PAGE A8**

CHARLIE'S BEAT

Dattilo earns a YES vote for his vocal performance

"When Yvonne Davis calls and asks you to be part of one of her special concerts, you can't say no to her," explains Dan Dattilo. This is how I came to see Dan and Yvonne and a whole host of Madison's top musical talent performing at the Madison Presbyterian Church three weeks ago. The occasion was part of the Madison Performing Arts Foundation's annual concert series. My 92-year old father-in-law recently moved to Madison, and I just knew Yvonne's blend



CHARLIE ROHLFING

of great pop songs from the bygone era would be right up his alley. Everything from Rhapsody in Blue to Stardust to New York, New York was on the bill, a familiar mix for anyone born in the 1930s. "I did a concert with Yvonne about 10 years ago," says Dan, "so I knew what a delight it is to work with her. This recent show was in honor of Yvonne's 90th birthday, and I was honored to be included." Dan, for those who don't already know (I certainly didn't) is an amazing vocalist, with the kind of silky smooth

SEE **DATTILO/PAGE A2**



Charlie Rohlfing

LOCAL VOCALIST DAN DATTILO

Columbus Day closings

BY THE COURIER STAFF

All city of Madison, town of Hanover and Jefferson County governmental offices will be closed Monday, Oct. 13, in observance of Columbus Day, reopening Tuesday, Oct. 14. The city of Madison closings include the water office, transfer station and Brown Gym. Trash and recycle pickup will be delayed by one day.

U.S. Postal Service facilities will be closed in recognition of the federal holiday. Only Priority Mail Express items will be delivered on the holiday, and regular mail delivery and retail services will resume on Tuesday, Oct. 14. All Indiana license branches will be closed Saturday through Monday for the Columbus Day holiday. Branches will resume regular business hours Tuesday, Oct. 14.

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High Low
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Michelle Bishop
Marvin Crawford
Warren Dunlap
Robert Hall

James Koontz
William Levell
Helen Parson

James Prater
James Riley
Ruth Turner



Follow our socials and see what we have to offer your student!



@MCS_Indiana
@growingmindsfarmstop
@MadisonAthletics / @cubsathletics
@MadisonTheatre_IN



Be sure to search for your favorite school, extracurricular club, or sports team...we are everywhere!

North Vernon plant announces layoffs

BY PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

GT Industries in North Vernon announced this week that the company will lay off 95 workers in two phases. The

motor vehicle metal stamping plant said the layoffs are due to the end of production on a program.

The announcement came in a federal Worker Adjust-

ment and Retraining Notification (WARN) Act notice.

GT Industries, located at 3765 North State Road 3, will provide separation benefits to those impacted by the

layoffs. They will permanently lose their jobs in two sets of layoffs — one Dec. 1 and the other April 23.

GT Industries is part of Midway Products Group, an

automotive supplier with headquarters in Monroe, Michigan. The local plant opened in 2017 and expanded in 2022 to a 320,000-square-foot facility that provides die

stamping, automated assembly, and robotic arc welding.

According to the notice, the company is not closing but rather downsizing.

POLICE REPORTS

JEFFERSON COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER LODGINGS
Oct. 6, 2025
Will J. Newby Jr., 25, Bedford, Kentucky, for Domestic Battery, a Level 6 felony. Bond \$2,500 cash.
Michele Rand Pennington, 35, Hanover, on a Jefferson County bench warrant. Bond \$1,000 cash.
Tyler W. Perry, 36, for Child Exploitation, a Level 5 felony. No bond.

Oct. 7, 2025
Amber Bowder, 45, Peru, Indiana, for Possession of Methamphetamine, a Level felony; and Possession of Paraphernalia, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond \$1,000 cash.

Kodi Alan Dyke, 20, for Theft, a Level 5 felony; Possession of Marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor; and Possession of Paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor. No bond.

Anthony Harvey Shockey, 64, Peru, Indiana, for Possession of Methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony; and Possession of Paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor. Bond \$1,000 cash.

Carlee Trista Taylor, 52, Hanover, to serve time on a court-ordered probation violation. No bond.

Oct. 8, 2025
Tyler Wayne Handlon, 30, Crothersville, Indiana, for Possession of Methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony; and Possession of Paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor. Bond \$1,000 cash.

JEFFERSON COUNTY CIRCUIT & SUPERIOR COURT SENTENCINGS
Oct. 6, 2025
Cassandra Lynn Webster, 43, Madison, to an amended charge of Possession of Marijuana, Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to 180 days jail with credit for 4 days jail served and 176 days suspended to supervised probation plus \$489 in fees and court costs.

Michael Andrew Green, 22, North Vernon, Indiana, for Possession of Marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor. Sentenced to zero days jail plus \$289 in fees and court costs.

Oct. 7, 2025
Todd Walter Anthony Chapman, 39, Madison, for Operating a Vehicle Without a Valid License, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 180 days jail, all suspended to supervised probation, plus \$389.50 in fees and court costs.

April Elizabeth Menn-

ing, 46, Madison, to an amended charge of Disorderly Conduct, Class B misdemeanor. Sentenced to 74 days jail, served, consecutive to 250 days probation violation on previously suspended sentence for driving while suspended plus \$289 in fees and court costs.

Justin Joe Deckard, 30, Madison, for Driving While Suspended, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 14 days jail, served, plus \$289.50 in fees and court costs.
Brandon Michael Stephens, 48, Madison, to an amended charge of Communication-Intimidation, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 20 days jail consecutive to 160 days probation violation on previously suspended sentence for leaving the scene of an accident, plus \$289 in court costs.

Brooke Leigh Barnes, 33, Madison, Leaving the Scene of an Accident, a Class B misdemeanor. Sentenced to 180 days jail, all suspended to 365 days of probation plus \$389.50 in fees and court costs and restitution in an amount to be determined.

Kenneth Dewayne Root, 22, Madison, to an amended charge of Neglect of Dependent-1 Count, a Level 6 felony. Sentenced to 912 days at Indiana Department of Correction, with credit for 76 days jail served and 836 days suspended to supervised probation plus \$589 in fees and court costs and restitution in an amount to be determined.

Sabrina Christine Sullivan, 60, Madison, for Battery Against a Public Safety Official, a Level 6 felony. Sentenced to 365 days at Indiana Department of Correction, with credit for 44 days jail served and 305 days suspended to supervised probation plus \$589 in fees and court costs.

Chloe Elizabeth Jaynes, 20, Madison, to an amended charge of Criminal Confinement, a Level 6 felony. Sentenced to 545 days at Indiana Department of Correction with credit for 76 days jail served and 469 days suspended to supervised probation plus \$589 in fees and court costs.

Stormy Jean Reyneke, 32, Madison, to an amended charge of Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated, a Level 6 felony. Sentenced to 540 days at Indiana Department of Correction, with credit for 6 days jail served and 534 days sus-

pended to supervised probation plus \$789.50 in fees and court costs and loss of Driver's License for 90 days.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS
JEFFERSON COUNTY
Oct. 6, 2025
Bonnie W. Miller and John A. Miller to John A. Miller, 433 Johnson Court, Madison.
Ronald Lee Chandler, Patricia Sue Chandler Cronen, Tracey Lynn Chandler and Sherri Lea Jewell to Michael L. Whitaker and Betty S. Whitaker, 205 South Amber Waves Boulevard, Hanover.

Logan Smoot, Logan Combs and Adam Combs, to Adam Combs and Logan Combs, 5390 West Mels Lane, Hanover.

Kayla Jean Anderson and Susan E. Stroud (estate) to Stone Grill Properties LLC, 5222 West Deputy Pike, Madison.

William Stephen Lohrig, Kathy Ann Byrne, Julie E. Jackson and Roger Wayne Lohrig to Chad Fife and Alison Fife, 111 East Main Street, Madison.

Gary D. Knepp and Sarah M. Knepp to Jordan Combs, Chelsey C. Combs and Chelsey Combs, approximately 32 acres at 12888 West State Road 56, Lexington.

Oct. 7, 2025
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation to Misty Leigh Owens, 211 Sycamore North Drive, Hanover.

Oct. 8, 2025
German American Bank and Robert D. Hughes (estate) to Clifty Engineering & Tool Company Inc., 9 tracts at 2949 and 2949+ Clifty Drive, Madison.

German American Bank and Robert D. Hughes (trust) and Robert D. Hughes Trust Agreement (trust) to Clifty Engineering & Tool Company Inc., 5 tracts at 2949 Clifty Drive, Madison.

Karen L. Sauley to Kara Sedam and Jill Deatley, 5337 West Foster Road, Hanover.

2nd Wind LLC to Shannon Johnson, 2837 Springwood Drive, Madison.

Hilary Sizemore and Anthony R. Sizemore (estate) to Noah Guetig and Jessica L. Guetig, 2111 Michigan Road, Madison.

Jack Daniel Ison and Jack D. Ison (deceased) to Trust for the Benefit of Suellen Ison (trust), 235 North Lakeside Drive, Madison.

BIRTHDAYS

Editor's Note: Got a birthday or anniversary coming up? Send name, date and number of years (optional) to zelda@madison-courier.com or call 812-265-3641. Please leave your name and phone number in case we have followup questions.

BIRTHDAYS
Oct. 12
Lori Hedges
Shirley Kloepper
Oct. 13
Donovan Estridge

Oct. 16
Greg Gosman
Beth Knox
Brett Roberts
Oct. 17
Carson Roark
Devin Rowe
Oct. 20
Anna Berry
Laura Schafer
Bill Sullivan
Oct. 21
Dale Crafton
Vernon Morris - 59
Oct. 22
Wayne Dunlap
Eric Phagan

DATTILO

FROM PAGE A1

voice that is tailor made for the old classics.

Readers may know Dan from his two terms on the Madison City Council, or his 30 years of teaching and counseling at Southwestern Schools. "I'm a lifelong Madisionian," says Dan, "and music has always been a big part of my life. I was in the very first band at Shawe when they restarted the program. I went off to college and double majored in vocal performance and trumpet performance.

"When I came back to Madison after college I did a lot of singing in church, of course, and eventually I started doing a lot of weddings and funerals. I actually sing at a LOT of funerals, that may be where the most people get to see my musical side.

"So anytime Yvonne calls me up with a chance to sing some of the great classics from the American song book, I'm super excited to be a part of it. This time I sang Stardust, which was written by the Hoosier songwriter Hoagy Carmichael. And I can tell you, it was a tough one to learn and perform! The other song, which Yvonne picked out for me, was New York, New York, popularized by Frank Sinatra. It's a song everybody knows and it makes everybody happy, so I was thrilled to do it.

"Yvonne was gracious enough to make herself available for rehearsals, and we actually met twice a week for a month! Like I said, those are intricate songs, and I wanted to do a good job of it. I'm pretty happy with the way the concert went."

As I said, I was in the audience that night, and I can attest to the professionalism and musicality of Dan's performance. I knew Dan more from the political arena, so I was pleasantly surprised and amazed when he started belting out the familiar tunes. The other vocalist that night was Faith Bible, who I did know as an accomplished singer, and her rendition of Stormy Weather gave the audience goose bumps. Look for an upcoming profile on Faith in the very near future.

When I asked Dan if he had any aspirations for his singing beyond the occasional show with Yvonne or singing at funerals, he was quick to respond. "Yes! I'd love to sing with some of the local bands, maybe do more contemporary popular music. There's a lot of joy that comes from singing in front of an audience. Some nerves, for sure, but a lot of joy!"

If any bands out there need a very talented and highly trained vocalist, you might want to give Dan a tryout. He's got the pipes, and his enthusiasm is infectious. Oh, and if

you haven't discovered the awesome concert series put on by the Madison Performing Arts Foundation, I urge you to look up the schedule and put the shows on your calendar. The concerts are free and the level of music they are presenting is top notch. Just Google "Madison Performing Arts Foundation" and you'll find a full 2025-26 schedule.

HOT TIP OF THE WEEK
On Friday I have to strongly recommend the show at Red Bicycle Hall. Joslyn & The Sweet Compression have played in Madison a number of times before, and their funky and soulful sound never fails to get the audience up on their feet and dancing. Joslyn's version of Rock Steady by Aretha is my personal favorite. "What it is, what it is, what it is" if you're feeling me! Saturday is shaping up to offer a perfect "musical pub crawl" experience in Indiana's Music City, with great bands playing at multiple locations downtown, plus one on the hilltop at the VFW. Leah Pruett and her Five Piece Chicken Dinner band at Mad Paddle will be an excellent hang out with friends or family. Oh, and don't forget the music playing all afternoon at the Soup Stew Chili & Brew fall festival on Main Street in Madison.

Charlie Rohlfing is a retired advertising man and partner in The Red Bicycle Hall music venue. Look for his distinctive fedora bobbing above the crowd anywhere local live music is happening.

MUSIC EVENTS SCHEDULE
Friday, Oct. 10
Riverboat Inn – Joe & Deano
1st Street Saloon – DJ

FALL PROPERTY

County Treasurer Meghan Crowley Hoskins has issued a reminder that Jefferson County Fall Property Taxes are due by Monday, Nov. 10. Tax bills can be paid at the County Treasurer's office at the Jefferson County Courthouse and at German American Bank, Farmer's Bank of Milton or Friendship State Bank with your tax statement. To pay online, visit www.jeffersoncounty.in.gov (fees may apply) or mail payments to P.O. Box 99, Madison, IN 47250.

Central – Karaoke with Crash
House of Jane Songwriter Session – Evie Landin & Conner Dermon (7 p.m.)
Red Bicycle Hall – Joslyn & The Sweet Compression (8 p.m.)
Mad Paddle Brewstillery – JDC Band (8 p.m.)
Rivertown Grill – Full Moon Rising (9 p.m.-1 a.m.)
Central – Karaoke with Crash
The Drake – Erik Brunner (7-10 p.m.)
TIKI Live! – L&L Karaoke (9 p.m.-1 a.m.)
Saturday, Oct. 11
Main Street – Soup, Stew, Chili & Brew:
Mulberry & Main Stage
Brian "Biggin" Noble - 12:30-2 p.m.
Rusty Bladen – 3-4:30 p.m.

Main & West Stage
Kenan Rainwater – 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Charlsee and Cam – 1-2 p.m.
Bee Camp Bottom Boys – 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Main & Poplar Stage
Sami Riggs – 11 a.m.-Noon
Keagan Hatton – 12:30-1:30 p.m.
Zach Hackney – 2-3 p.m.

—
Riverboat Inn - Hippie Fingers
1st Street Saloon - Karaoke
Mad Paddle Brewstillery – Leah Pruett's Five Piece Chicken Dinner (7-10 p.m.)
Off Broadway Taproom – Vaguely Familiar (8pm)
VFW – Silverwings (8 p.m.-Midnight)
Central – Smoking Jokers
TIKI Live! – L&L Karaoke (9 p.m.-1 a.m.)
Sunday, Oct. 12
Rivertown Grill – Joe & Deano (7-10 p.m.)



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Digital only: \$4 per month
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LOTTERIES

INDIANA
Hoosier Lotto: 3-4-7-20-29-42 (10/8).
Estimated Jackpot: \$3.8 million. **Next Drawing** 10/11)
Cash Five: 11-14-21-31-36 (10/8)
Cash 4 Life: 11-19-42-58-59 CB: 3 (10/8)

KENTUCKY
Cash Ball: 9-14-18-32 CB: 5 (10/8)
Lucky For Life: 9-13-14-35-46 LB: 6 (10/8)

MEGAMILLIONS: 17-26-33-45-56 MB: 19 10/7) **Next Jackpot:** \$575 million. **Next Drawing** 10/10)
POWERBALL: 8-10-44-48-54 PB: 14, PP 2 (10/8). **Next Estimated Jackpot:** \$244 million. **Next Drawing** (10/11)
POWERBALL DOUBLE PLAY: 8-13-19-34-53 PB: 24 (10/8). **Next Estimated Jackpot** up to \$10 million. **Next Drawing** (10/11)

WEATHER

Sunrise: 7:45 a.m.
Sunset: 7:11 p.m.
Temperature: High 68, Low 40, Mean 54.0, Deficit 5.1
Precipitation since last published: .82

Precipitation, October 2025: .82
Precipitation, 2025: 48.65
Barometer 30.27, Rising
River Level at Clifty Creek: 422.32 feet, Rising

Forecast: Saturday: Partly cloudy High 76/Low 48; Sunday: Mostly sunny High 76/Low 47; Monday: Partly cloudy High 78/Low 52; Tuesday: Partly cloudy High 80/Low 54.

CORRECTIONS

Due to misunderstanding during page proofing for Tuesday's edition, there was an attribution error in the Soup, Stew, Chili & Brew story.

A quote attributed to Mindy McGee should have been attributed to Alex Helton, executive director of the Madison Area Chamber of Com-

merce. A story on Madison's Main Street resurfacing project failed to list McGee's most recent job title as the city's Director of Finance.

OBITUARIES

James Kenneth 'Kenny' Riley

James Kenneth "Kenny" Riley, age 78, of Moorefield, IN, entered this life on Dec. 21, 1946, in Switzerland County, IN. He was the son of the late Jesse J. and Mary Edith (Breedon) Riley. He was raised in Vevay, IN, and was a 1964 graduate of the Vevay High School.

Kenny was inducted into the United States Army on Feb. 23, 1966, and served during the Vietnam War. He received the National Defense Service Medal and the Sharpshooter Rifle Badge. Kenny was transferred to the reserves on Feb. 5, 1968, at Fort Hamilton, NY, and was honorably discharged with the rank of Sergeant on Feb. 22, 1972.

Kenny was united in marriage on Dec. 18, 1976, to Margaret Ann Varble at the Vevay Methodist Church. This happy union of nearly 49 years was blessed with a son Kyle and a daughter Katie. Kenny was employed in the repair station for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Louisville, KY, retiring after 44 years of dedicated service. He also farmed most of his life, raising cattle, and tending the land, that he loved. Kenny was a member of the American Simmental Association and the Vevay American Legion Post #185. Kenny had a playful spirit and especially enjoyed teasing his wife, Margaret Ann. He enjoyed



collecting antiques and had a special fondness for John Deere tractors. Kenny took pride in showing his registered cattle, and liked spending his time at auctions, visiting with friends, and looking for a good bargain.

Kenny passed away at 2:42 a.m., Wednesday, Oct. 8, 2025, at his residence in Moorefield.

Kenny is survived by his wife, Margaret Ann (Varble) Riley of Moorefield, IN; his son, Kyle Riley and his wife, Patty of Moorefield, IN; his daughter, Katie Collier and her husband, Lance of Moorefield, IN; his grandchildren, Macy Collier, Cale Collier and Kallie Riley; his brother, Phillip Riley of Vevay, IN; his sisters, JoAnn Canfield of Madison, IN, Betty Mathews of Madison, IN, and Janette Ferguson Newell and her husband, Chuck of Covington, IN; his sisters-in-law and brothers-

in-law, Dale and Susan Varble, R.H. and Kris Varble, Vincent Varble, Lea Annette Varble, Georgette and Barry O'Neal, and Cindy Varble; and his several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his father, Jesse J. Riley, his mother, Mary Edith (Breedon) Riley, his brothers-in-law, Louis Franklin "Frankie" Ferguson Jr., and Nelson Wayne Mathews, his sister-in-law, Glenna S. (Gayle) Riley, and his infant niece, Jill Aileen Mathews.

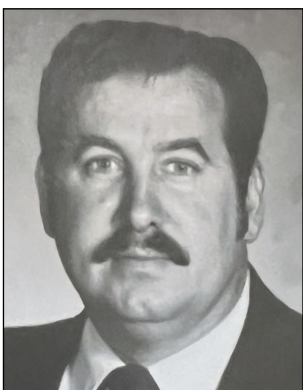
Visitation will be held from 4 - 7 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 11, 2025, at the Haskell & Morrison Funeral Home, 208 Ferry Street, Vevay, IN.

Funeral services will be conducted at 1 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025, by Rev. Mike Jones, at the Haskell & Morrison Funeral Home in Vevay.

Interment and full military rites will be conducted by the Honor Guard of the Vevay American Legion Post #185 and the Vevay VFW Post #5396 in the Caledonia Cemetery, Moorefield, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Switzerland County 4-H or Switzerland County FFA. Cards are available at the funeral home or online at www.haskellandmorrison.com.

James 'Doug' Douglas Koontz



2025, at 4:44 p.m., at the Norton King's Daughters' Hospital Emergency Room in Madison, IN.

Doug will be missed by his loving wife of 56 years, Carolyn Ann Hemmer Koontz of Hanover, IN; his loving son, Mark Koontz and his wife, Angela of Madison, IN; his loving daughter, Linda Ann King of Madison, IN; his grandchildren, Kara Bayne (Wes), Katelyn Carter (Wyatt), Jaydon Douglas Koontz, and Dayton Owen King; his great grandchildren, Everly June Bayne, Lainey Claire Bayne, Colton Liam Carter, and Alaina Lynn Carter; his brothers, Duane D. Koontz of Hanover, IN, Michael D. Koontz of Hanover, IN; his sisters, Deborah L. Jacobson of Brooksbury, IN, Donna M. Lytle of Madison, IN, Marta D. Tingle of Madison, IN; several nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

He was preceded in

death by his father, James Edward Koontz, his mother, Margaret Marie Kidd Koontz, his brothers, Daniel S. Koontz, and Donald E. Koontz, and his sister, Yvonne Carol Manning.

Funeral Mass will be conducted Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2025, at 11 a.m., by Father Rick Nagel at the Prince of Peace Catholic Church, 413 East Second Street in downtown Madison, IN. Interment will follow in the St. Patrick Cemetery, 305 West State Street in Madison, IN.

Friends may visit Monday, Oct. 13, 2025, from 4 - 7 p.m., and Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2025, from 9 a.m. until 10:30 a.m., at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

The Rosary will be prayed on Monday, Oct. 13, 2025, at 7 p.m., at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or the Prince of Peace Catholic Church. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover, or at the church. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

Mary Sue Knox Robinson

Mary Sue Knox Robinson, age 79, of Madison, IN, entered this life on Sept. 2, 1946, in Switzerland County, IN. She was the loving daughter of the late Franklin Roy and Ada Ruth Brooks Knox. She was raised and schooled in Switzerland County. On Jan. 2, 1969, she was united in marriage to Gilbert Louis Robinson in Madison, IN. She had resided in Madison, the past 55 years and had attended the Brooksbury Baptist Church. She cooked for the Swiss Villa Living Center in Vevay, for 12 years. She had worked as a private babysitter for families in Vevay, and Madison, for many years. She loved quilting, working in her flowers, cooking, gardening, caring for her children, and grandchildren.



Mary died on Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2025, at 10:30 p.m., at the River Terrace Health Campus in Madison.

Mary will be missed by her loving daughters, Rhonda Lee Scudder Jordan and her companion, Jeff Lawrence of Morganfield, KY, Tonya Jones and her husband, Stephen of Madison, IN, Giltina "Tina" Jones and her husband, Shelby of Lexington, IN; her grandsons she raised,

Jake Scudder and his wife, Amanda of Madison, IN, Vince Miller and his companion, Erin Burchett; her granddaughter she raised, Amber Jordan and her companion, Derance Richards; her grandchildren, Makayla Jones, Travis Jones and his wife, Stella, and Savannah Jones and her companion, Gage Callis; her great grandchildren, Kelsey Keller (Tazman Shipley), Kya Torrance, Kristin Torrance, Hunter Scudder, Briar Scudder, and Elijah Callis; her great great grandson, Nicklaus Shipley; her sisters, Norma Lou Lauderbaugh and her husband, Louie of Crawfordsville, IN, Theresa Pequeen and her husband, Tom of FL; her brother, Mike Knox and his wife, Vickie of FL; several nieces, nephews, and other

relatives.

She was preceded in death by her father, Franklin Roy Knox, her mother, Ada Ruth Brooks Knox, her husband of 56 years, Gilbert Louis "Gibby" Robinson, died Sept. 9, 2023, and her sister, Betty Delones.

Friends may visit Saturday, Oct. 11, 2025, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Norton King's Daughters' Hospital Cancer Center. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

Soliman thanks church for support while detained by ICE

BY BOB DEMAREE

The Rev. Kirstin Springmeyer and Ayman Soliman were reunited Sunday at Madison's Christ Episcopal Church — the first time since Soliman was released Friday, Sept. 19, after 73 days of being detained by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in the Butler County Jail.

Springmeyer, a Christian, and Soliman, a Muslim, had worked together for three years as chaplains at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. But on June 3, Soliman lost the asylum status he had been granted seven years ago after fleeing Egypt in 2014. On July 9 Soliman was detained by ICE.

Springmeyer, who on Sept. 15 began her new role as Priest in Charge at Christ Episcopal, was enjoying music at the Broadway Fountain on that Friday three weeks ago when she got a text that Soliman had been released, his asylum status had been reinstated and all charges against him were dismissed.

Soliman wanted to visit Christ Episcopal to thank those in the congregation who had supported him with letters and cards throughout the ordeal.



Bob Demaree

The Rev. Kirstin Springmeyer and Ayman Soliman were reunited Sunday at Madison's Christ Episcopal Church. Springmeyer, a Christian, and Soliman, a Muslim, had worked together as chaplains at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. Soliman, an Egyptian, lost asylum status in June and was detained by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in the Butler County Jail until Sept. 19.

Springmeyer said Soliman had told her, "I want to meet your beautiful people."

Soliman had been granted asylum in 2018 under the first administration of President Donald Trump after coming to the United States in 2014. The Associated Press reported Soliman had come to the U.S. based on past persecution for his work as a journalist in Egypt during the Arab Spring uprising in which his lawyers stated he had been jailed and

tortured for reporting on the political conflict. "I was told I could not come back to Egypt so I had to stay," he said.

However, in the last month of the Joe Biden presidency, Soliman said officials in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) moved to revoke the asylum. "Unfortunately every Muslim is a suspect so they were raising some terrorism related allegations which was crazy."

DHS had built the case on

allegations that while he was in Egypt, Soliman was involved with an Islamic charity for orphans that provided aid to the Muslim Brotherhood but he said the Brotherhood is not a U.S.-designated terrorist organization.

"Even if the charitable organization that I volunteered with was linked to the Brotherhood, it is not a crime, because none of them are a terrorist organization. Why would you consider me a terrorist? It just doesn't make sense," Soliman said.

Soliman was detained July 9 by ICE during a check-in with immigration officials and taken to the Butler County Jail, which has a contract to house people detained by ICE.

He told the Christ Episcopal congregation that the experience of being in the Butler County Jail was traumatic. "I felt injustice, I felt persecuted and I felt demonized" but every day he received letters "many from people like you that I had never met. I would read those letters and they would tell me they love me and they support me. At a time when the government wanted to deport me telling me I didn't belong here, people like you

SEE **SOLIMAN/PAGE A6**

DEATH NOTICES

Michelle Downey Bishop, 58, of Henry County, KY, died Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2025. Memorial service is 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 10, at Prewitt Funeral Home in New Castle, KY, www.prewitts.com.

Marvin James "Bub" Crawford, 68, of Carrollton, KY, died Saturday, Oct. 4, 2025. He was a veteran of the US Army National Guard, Carrollton Unit. Funeral service was Thursday, Oct. 9, at Tandy-Eckler-Riley Funeral Home in Carrollton, www.tandyecklerrileyfuneralhome.com.

Warren Lee Dunlap, 86, of Bedford, KY, died Saturday, Oct. 4, 2025 at Norton Brownsboro Hospital in Louisville. He was a veteran of the Kentucky National Guard. Funeral service is 1 p.m. Monday, Oct. 13, at Ransdell Funeral Home in Bedford, with burial in Bedford Cemetery there, www.ransdellfuneral.com.

Robert Hall, 83, of Madison, IN, died Monday, Oct. 6, 2025, at the Waters of Clifty Falls in Madison. Arrangements will be announced by Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison and Hanover, IN, www.morgan-nay.com.

William E. "Bill" Levell, 77, of East Enterprise, IN, died Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2025, at his residence. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, at Haskell & Morrison Funeral Home in Vevay, IN, with interment to follow in the New Liberty Cemetery in East Enterprise, www.haskellandmorrison.com.

Helen Elizabeth Parson, 66, of Worthville, KY, died Friday, Oct. 3, 2025. A celebration of life was Tuesday, Oct. 7, at Heady-Radcliffe Funeral Home in La Grange, KY, www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/lagrange-ky/helen-parson-12545709.

James B. Prater, 76, of Madison, IN, died Wednesday, Oct. 8, 2025, at Aperion Care Hanover in Hanover, IN. Arrangements will be announced by Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison and Hanover, www.morgan-nay.com.

Ruth Adeline Turner, 92, of Bedford, KY, died Sunday, Oct. 5, 2025, at The Springs at Oldham Reserve in La Grange, KY. Funeral service was Thursday, Oct. 9, at Ransdell Funeral Home in Bedford, with interment in Bedford Cemetery there, www.ransdellfuneral.com.

MAYOR

FROM **PAGE A1**

Tax and Riverboat sources.

- Removal of \$100,000 investment in tourism and the Main Street Program from the Food & Beverage Tax.

- Levy allocation to Parks reduced by 25% to cover other General Fund expenditures, offset by Food & Beverage Tax. Parks general utilities also offset with Food & Beverage Tax.

- Adoption of a \$25/\$40 Wheel Tax.

- Adoption of a 1% Food & Beverage Tax.

"Madison residents want a city government that makes smart financial choices while keeping vital services strong," said Courtney. "This budget meets that responsibility while we work with state leaders on long-term solutions to the challenges from SEA 1."

Courtney noted the goal of SEA 1 is to transfer more governmental funding from property taxes to local income taxes so one of the challenges moving forward will be how Madison can do that in a way that results in the least amount of burden on the workforce.

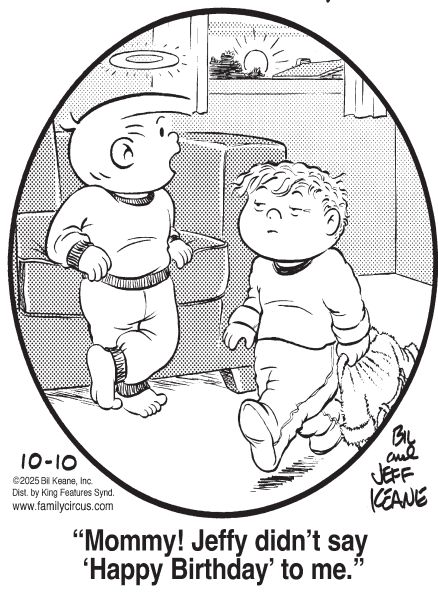
He added that the lawmakers are expected to eliminate the current form of local income tax by 2028, so Madison will need to be develop and adopt a plan dealing with that by the summer of 2027.

Courtney noted the budget process will be challenging this year and thanked the council and staff members for their efforts to tighten purse strings without undermining quality of life services for the city's taxpayers.

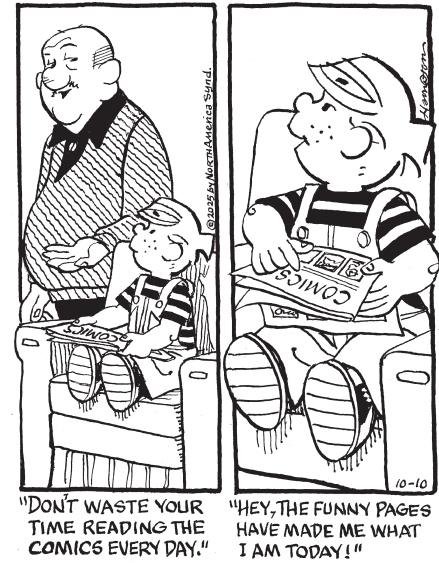
"We continue to deliver great value on your investment ... and I think we are doing exceptionally well on leveraging your investment," he said.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



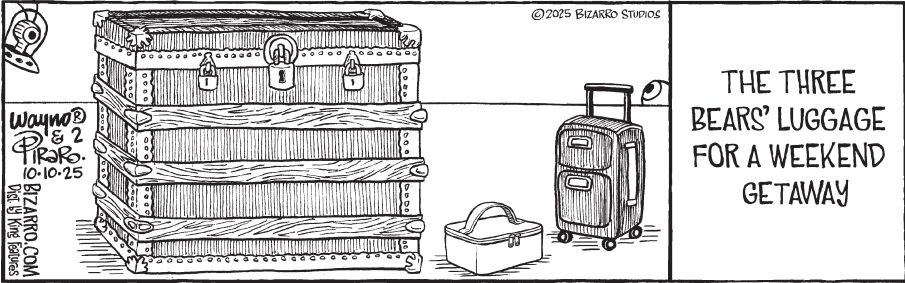
DENNIS THE MENACE



ARCTIC CIRCLE



BIZARRO



BEETLE BAILEY



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



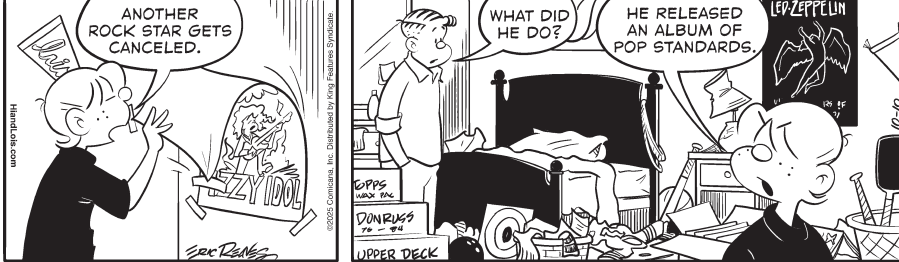
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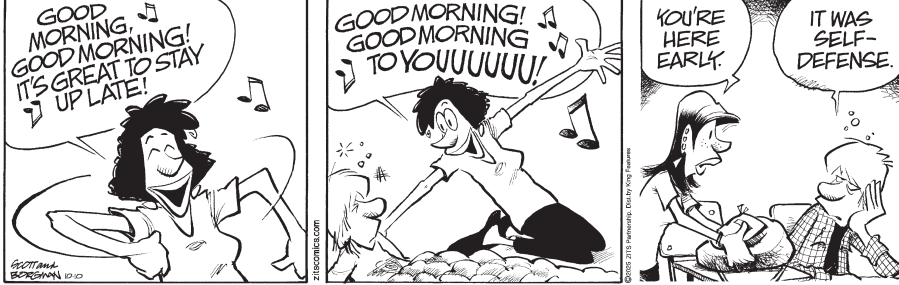
HI & LOIS



PARDON MY PLANET



ZITS



DUMPLINGS



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



SIX CHIX



BARNEY GOOGLE AND SNUFFY SMITH



SALLY FORTH



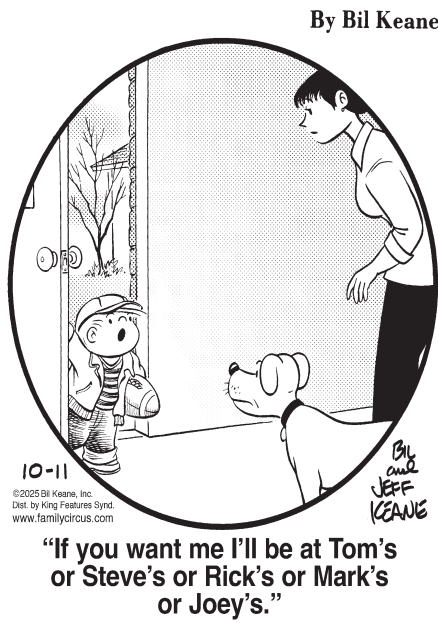
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MUTTS



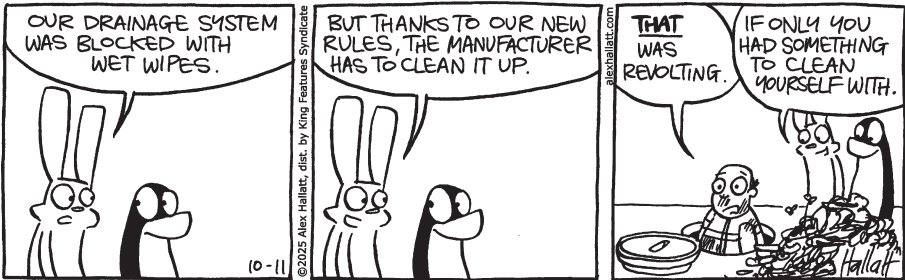
THE FAMILY CIRCUS



DENNIS THE MENACE



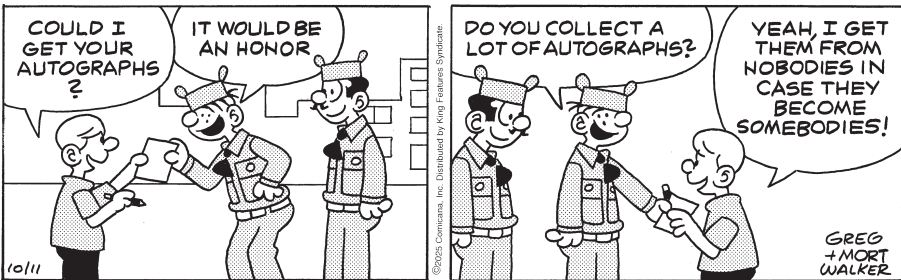
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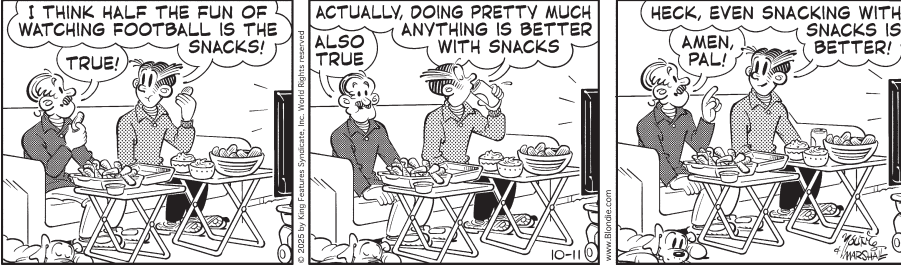
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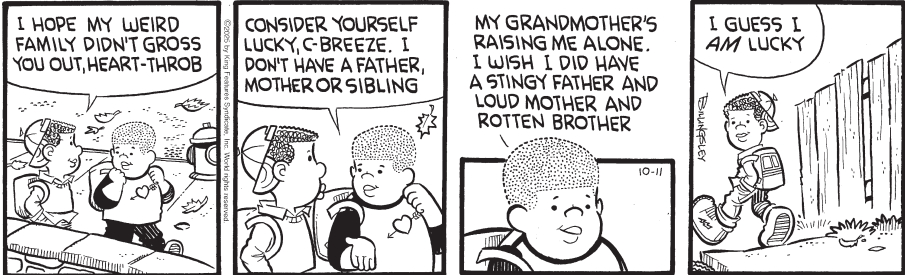
RHYMES WITH ORANGE



BLONDIE



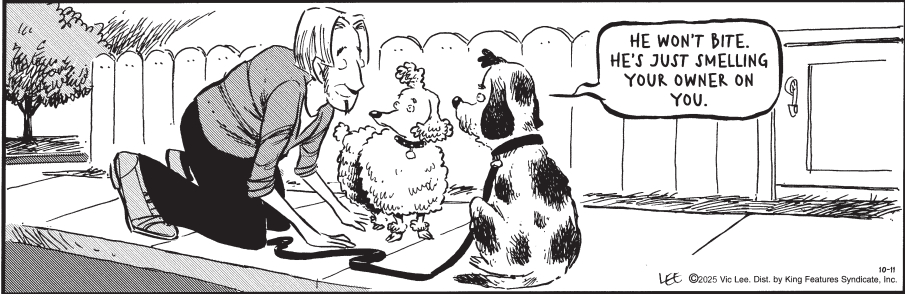
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HI & LOIS



PARDON MY PLANET



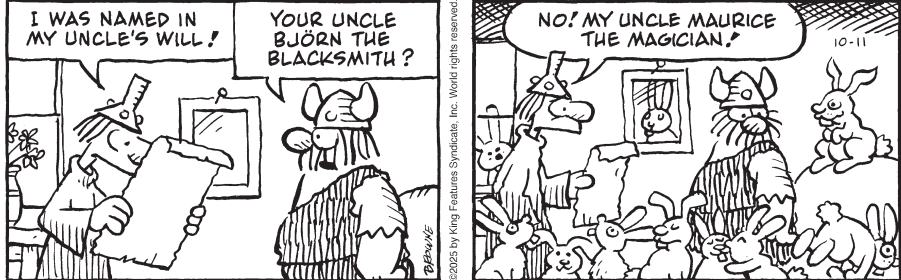
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DUMPLINGS



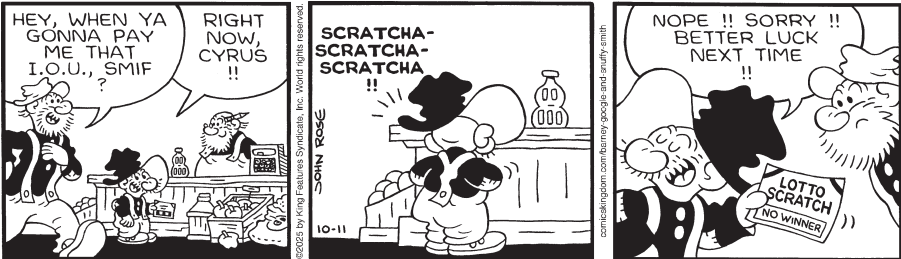
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



SIX CHIX



BARNEY GOOGLE AND SNUFFY SMITH



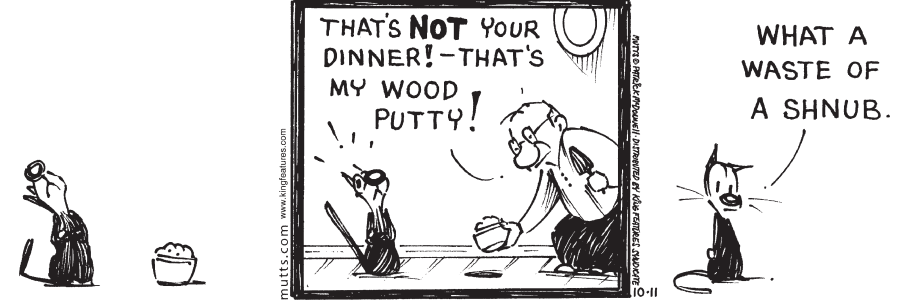
SALLY FORTH



DUSTIN



MUTTS



Southwestern Class of 1965



Submitted

Southwesten High School’s Class of 1965 held its 60-year reunion Saturday, Oct. 4. Those attending included (from left): Seated — Connie Guthrie Dagleish, Brenda Hudson Jones, Margaret Craig Hillery, Linda Cleffman, Linda Wilson Sloffer, Barbara Stites Burnett, Sharon Cutshall Cheathan, and Ginger Arvin Sexton; Standing — Ron Hopper, Mike Lewis, Roger Griffin, Kenny Sheets, Eddie Bare, Betty Jones Jett, Elaine Pearson Morrill, Glenda Hogg Flynn, Charlene Snyder McGrath, Martha Calvert LeGrand, Ernest McCleary. Sheila Hyatt Sauer, Linda Medford Vance and Diana Gray Pray. Not pictured: Martha Long Harrod.

Last founding BVFD firefighter to celebrate 99th birthday Saturday

Glenn 'Sonny' Fisher honored for a lifetime of service

BY CINDY WARRICK
PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

Growing up in the Great Depression as a 16-year-old farm boy who was big for his age, but was told he would not amount to anything, what



Glenn “Sonny” Fisher

do? Trimble County’s Glenn “Sonny” Fisher left home, fudged his age, and joined the U.S. Army. Since he was big for his age and healthy, he easily made it in.

His dad and uncle had served in World War I, and he believed it was his duty. As his unit shipped out, he looked down the gangway on the former elegant passenger ship the U.S.S. America, which during World War II had been converted into a troop ship called the U.S.S. Westpoint, on his way to service in France. He was later on Utah Beach during the Normandy invasion.

Fisher’s entire adult life revolved around the Army, rising from a private to a Colonel when he finally retired from the Army Reserves in 1989. When he was 17, he was injured in the left ear and cheek by shrapnel but went right back into service once



Handout

Glenn “Sonny” Fisher during his military service.

discharged from the hospital. The time between his active duty, which ended in 1946 when he was just 29, and when he finally retired in 1989, he served in the Army reserves in several teaching, command, and training capacities, ending as a full Colonel.

In 1946 when many veterans were returning from the war, they often did not have jobs waiting for them. While sitting with a bunch of his Bedford buddies, in what was then the Bell Pharmacy, they expressed the need for a fire department in the community. About half of that original group were farmers.

That corps of 20 men became the first Bedford Volunteer Fire Department. They included Carroll Morgan, who owned the pharmacy in which they all sat and dreamed of the fire department, Charles Persell, W.R. Abbot, Millard Maxey, Cliff Liter, George Wood, Bobby Dunlap, John Cutshaw, Eldred Fisher, Preston Pardo, Truman Perry,



Handout

Members of the original Bedford Volunteer Fire Department

Hayward Tingle, Leslie Abbott, Wilbur Slocum, Bennie Marshall, Robert Bray Jr., Glenn Fisher, Harold Harmon, and Bobby True.

Fisher recounted the early days of the department when they were located on the courthouse square at the spot currently occupied by the Trimble County Judge Executive’s office. Their first fire engine was purchased new for \$7,500, but they soon realized that the water carried on board was not enough, so they purchased a tanker truck. During the early days, each firefighter purchased his own equipment which consisted of a coat and helmet. Four poles were put up at the corners of the old stone jail and that consisted of the siren system.

In order to raise funds, Fisher stated, “We would set

up times and assign areas in the city and surrounding area for the firefighters to go and sell fire subscriptions. We walked the area and talked to people in person.”

Much like nowadays, Fisher said staffing the department with volunteers was a challenge. “Sometimes we had to stay in the firehouse on Saturday and Sunday to make sure it was covered. Since about half of the men were farmers and did not have other jobs, we expected a lot from them from helping to build the station to cover hours.” All the training the men went through involved “school training.”

Along with Fisher’s years of involvement with the fire department, he also served as a rural mail carrier for 30 years and has been a director for Bedford Loan and Deposit

since 1991.

In 2014 Fisher was awarded the Knight of the Legion of Honor medal by the French government in tribute to the soldiers who did so much for France and Western Europe during the war. Originally established and given by Napoleon, The Knight of the Legion of Honor, is the highest honor that France can bestow upon those who have achieved remarkable deeds for France.

Given by Vincent Floreani, General Consul for France in Chicago, the award states: “You gave your youth to France and the French people....You saved us...We will never forget.”

Friends of Glenn “Sonny” Fisher and his fellow firefighters will celebrate his 99th birthday with a party in his honor on Saturday, Oct. 11 from 2-4 p.m. hosted by

Bedford Volunteer Fire Department at the firehouse. The Honor Flight Bluegrass KILROY Vintage Military Vehicle Organization will be in attendance with vintage vehicles on display.

Jeff Thoke, chairman of Honor Flight Bluegrass states: “We as Americans owe our World War II veterans everything as they saved the world for all of us so we could have the freedoms we have today. The least we can do is honor Glenn on this 99th birthday.” Come meet Glenn to wish a member of the Greatest Generation a happy birthday and see the various military vehicles from KILROY on display at the adjoining Bedford Loan and Deposit Bank.

For more info contact Thoke at 502-645-5421 or Emily Yowler at 812-899-6536.



Bob Demaree

Madison's Vaughn Drive was packed with golf carts, UTVs and ATVs Saturday for the Madison Riverfront Development Committee's annual Poker Run fundraiser. An estimated 1,500 to 2,000 participants paid to join the fun with 450 to 500 vehicles making 20 stops in the community.

Poker Run brings huge participation for riverfront fundraiser

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Madison Riverfront Development Committee’s Poker Run drew 450 to 500 machines — golf carts, UTVs and ATVs — and between 1,500 and 2,000 participants, according to J.D. Webster, a member of the committee and event organizer.

Started in 2017, the Poker Run, held last Saturday is a fundraiser for enhancing Madison's riverfront.

“One thing that we’re very proud about regarding this event is that people absolutely have fun while supporting our beautiful riverfront. All of the proceeds raised, go directly to current

and future new projects on our riverfront,” said Webster.

Webster said the event also helps the local economy. “Our hotels, restaurants and shops also benefit tremendously from the increased out-of-town traffic that this event is bringing to Madison. We estimate that almost 30% of the participants are not from Madison or Jefferson County.”

This year’s event featured 20 stops — the most ever — and utilized more than 60 volunteers.

“We appreciate all the volunteers that took a whole day out of their calendar to help make this event so successful,” said Webster. “We had a record number of machines along with a record

number of participants and can’t thank our volunteers enough.”

SOLIMAN

FROM PAGE A3

said no, you belong here.”

Soliman said it provided a sense of belonging to the faith community and to Christ Episcopal Church, even though he had never before been there until Sunday and in spite of the fact he is a Muslim. “We probably approach God differently and we go to different houses of worship, but you are my brothers and sisters. You were praying for me. You have no idea what that means to me.”

Soliman said, “One of the best outcomes of this experience is that is has strengthened my faith in a way that I have never experienced before ... God is love, God is mercy. Sometimes you just have to be patient.”

It’s been more than 11 years since Soliman left Egypt, and

seen his wife and son, who is now 16 years old. Although they remain in Egypt, he communicates virtually with them often, and would like to have them join him in the United States.

Springmeyer said, “People who know Iman like I do know him as the most caring, compassionate chaplain who goes above and beyond for all people regardless of race, creed, color, faith — he’s there for everybody on the same level as he would for his son.”

Soliman said he was “grateful for the faith leaders, the faith communities, churches, mosques, synagogues and temples” of various religions that all supported him through his ordeal.

“If this traumatic event had any good outcome, it’s when people of faith just focused on humanity,” he said. “Sometimes we get busy and consume ourselves looking for our differences, but embrace our diversity instead

of looking at where we have differences. I am so happy my plight brought the people of faith together.”

Christ Episcopal Church’s prayer quilt ministry, Prayers and Square, presented Soliman with a quilt that ministry leader Pam Jones said took 10 hours to make, noting not all of the quilts made “are that involved but he certainly deserved the time” it took to make the quilt.

“This o•er of love reflects the beautiful hearts, vision, and compassion that are the hallmarks of our church family,” said Springmeyer.

“The release of Ayman Soliman from ICE custody is a profound reminder of the power of faith and the strength of our collective prayers,” said Springmeyer. “Ayman’s gratitude for the cards he received from us in jail speaks volumes about the love and solidarity we share. It is heartwarming to be a part of a church community that lives unity and kindness.”

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW IF YOU ARE ON MEDICARE



Call your local friendly agent at 812-273-1187

The annual election period for Part D and C plans is **October 15th to December 7th**. It is always a good idea to have your coverage reviewed. Make sure you have a complete understanding of how your coverage works.

“We do not offer every plan available in your area. Any information we provide is limited to those plans we do offer in your area. Please contact Medicare.gov or 1-800-MEDICARE to get information on all of your options.”



220 Clifty Drive,
Suite C, Madison, IN

Touch A Truck



Bob Demaree

George Bultman (left) and Kurtis Gregory of REMC, share information with students at Switzerland County Elementary and Jefferson-Craig Elementary during a "Touch a Truck" careers event held recently.



Bob Demaree

Switzerland County Elementary hosted a "Touch a Truck" event recently as the capstone to College Go Week in helping the students from that school and Jefferson-Craig Elementary to explore future careers in southeastern Indiana. At right, Lynn Fravell, paramedic with Switzerland County Emergency Response, talks with students about her work.



Bob Demaree

East Enterprise Fire Chief Jeff Darling shares information about being a firefighter during the "Touch a Truck" event held recently for students at Switzerland County Elementary and Jefferson-Craig Elementary.

Plan Commission to evaluate fees for solar, battery plants

Subcommittee formed to study issue

BY BOB DEMAREE

A subcommittee to recommend application fees for solar systems and battery plants was established at Tuesday's meeting of the Jefferson County Plan Commission in order to ensure the county has the administrative capacity.

Last year, Orion Renewable Energy Group LLC had submitted an application with the Board of Zoning Appeals to lease and develop 3,324 acres from about 20 property owners near Paynesville in Saluda Township, a process that County Surveyor Mike Pittman said placed a strain on the Building and Zoning Department staff, leading to concern that the staff is too small to handle another solar application.

"We had some discussion if we were to have another solar application that we would be best to bring in an outside firm that could provide personnel to help us with the process all the way through," said Plan Commission President Warren Auxier.

He said Amy Williams, principal/partner with Taylor Siefker Williams Design Group, provided a fee estimate for that service ranging from \$10,000 to \$20,000 for a special exception application for the BZA, and \$5,000 to \$10,000 for a solar development plan. Other firms are also being sought for fee recommendations.

Currently, for solar and wind, there is a \$2,000 building permit fee plus \$5 per acre over 10 acres and

a \$1,000 application fee plus \$5 per acre that Auxier stated is "short from where we need to be" in order to fund hiring a firm to assist through the solar process.

Auxier said another factor for solar fees would be if the company has several locations. "We may want to look at putting language in if they have 20 locations" that there might be a fee amount for each location in addition to the fee for the overall special exception application.

He said the solar language in the Unified Development Ordinance was written so that "we couldn't really evaluate it as whole; that each parcel needed to be looked at individually" with a separate finding of facts.

Pittman said the first solar application the county handled was educational.

"We learned a lot with the first major application. Both for and against (solar) had legal representation so we know we're going to have a lot more paper work on our side," said Pittman. He noted the Orion application also involved several meetings with large numbers of people in attendance that involved "a major effort on everybody's part to get it done. From that standpoint, we have to look at the resources we have, and the resources" the solar companies have, "and try to come to a happy medium ... It certainly consumed a lot of time from this department."

Auxer agreed the process involved with the Orion application "was a huge education. It was overwhelming for the department."

David Ferguson, president of the Board of Zoning Appeals, said there was a great deal of burden placed on that board through the Orion application process

last year. "It would be nice as we're going through that process to have a paid consultant to help, working through the findings of fact and filtering through all the different information you get to find out what's factual and what's not."

Auxier said there is currently no fee for a commercial battery plant except for a \$75 variance application fee. Even though battery plants would be going into an industrial area, Auxier said a variance would still need to be requested.

Pittman said when Aypa Power submitted an application for a battery plant to the city of Madison that the "biggest concern I heard, and one of most scary ones was fire ... That involves additional equipment for your first responders" and others that would be involved in any such dangerous situations.

"When you talk about the application (for battery plants) you also need to have an evaluation on what the risk is, and what kind cost can be incurred by that, and what kind of equipment we would need to purchase for the fire departments," Pittman said.

The subcommittee formed will include Auxier, Pittman, Plan Commission member Ray Black Jr., building inspector Josh Cline and planning office administrative assistant Taylor Baulac.

Auxier reported to the Plan Commission that the Commissioners had adopted the solar updates of the UDO last month. "It was a long drawn out procedure" in making those updates, "but we made our way through it, and overall, I was pleased with the result that we ended up with. I think everybody put a lot of time and effort into it, and we did well."

BZA OKs exception for dog kennel in Monroe Township

BY BOB DEMAREE

A special exception for a dog kennel in an agricultural district was unanimously approved for a property in Monroe Township at Tuesday's meeting of the Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals.

The application was made at 6152 North Graham Road, owned by Kyle and Amanda Harsin, for the operation of Harsin's Canine Campground to provide boarding service for dogs up to two weeks.

Taylor Harsin, their daughter, requested the special exception in order to continue the business that recently opened. "It's a very small family-owned business" that houses a maximum of eight dogs. "It's a pretty low-maintenance rural function."

In other business, board member Kellen Cronen asked if there had been any updates about the lawsuit filed against the BZA by Idlewild Solar Project LLC, an entity of Orion Renewable Energy Group LLC, after the

board had denied its application last year for a proposed 472 megawatt solar project in Saluda Township.

BZA President David Ferguson said he was not aware of any updates. County Surveyor Mike Pittman said Orion had filed 2,000 pages of documentation.

The last court filing in the civil case was July 30 that provided contact information for Idlewild's attorneys. The case was filed in Switzerland Circuit Court on Dec. 19, 2024.

VP Vance returns to Indiana amid redistricting push

BY ISABELLA VOLMERT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

As the White House continues to push for redistricting, Vice President JD Vance is expected to be in Indiana on Friday for the second time in recent months, according to a notice from the Federal Aviation Administration.

While other Republican-led states like Texas and Missouri quickly answered the White House's call to create new congressional district maps that are expected to favor the GOP in the 2026 election, Indiana lawmakers have been noticeably more hesitant. Indiana's legislative leaders have said barely a word publicly about where they stand on the matter in the months since Vance first visited.

Vance's visit is at least the third time he has talked to Indiana Republican lawmakers about the possibility. He met privately with Gov. Mike Braun and legislative leaders in Indianapolis on Aug. 7 to discuss the subject, and pressure mounted in the weeks following. Trump met privately with state House Speaker Todd Huston and state Senate President Pro Tem Rodric Bray in the Oval Office on Aug. 26. Vance also spoke to other rank-and-file lawmakers



Evan Vucci/AP photo

Vice President JD Vance speaking with reporters in the James Brady Press Briefing Room at the White House on Oct. 1 in Washington.

who were visiting Washington, D.C., that day.

Vance's office did not respond to messages seeking comment.

Braun's, Huston's and Bray's offices also did not respond to messages requesting comment.

Typically, states redo their congressional boundaries every 10 years with the census in a

process called redistricting. Indiana finalized it's own current map in 2021. But President Donald Trump has recruited Republican governors to draw up new congressional districts in an attempt to give the party an easier path to maintaining control of the House in the midterms next year.

Texas and Missouri have

enacted new districts as Democrats in California are seeking voter approval to add as many as five Democrat-held seats in Congress.

The vice president's visit comes three weeks after former Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg, a potential 2028 Democratic presidential candidate, rallied against redistricting in Indiana, a state Trump won by 19 percentage points in 2024.

Braun, a Republican and strong ally of Trump, has said that redistricting will likely happen. He hasn't called a special session yet, though, saying he wants to be sure lawmakers are behind a new map. Republicans hold a supermajority in both chambers.

The deadline to file to run for office in the 2026 general election in Indiana is Feb. 6, leaving about four months to call a special session, make a new map, approve it and finalize candidates to run in the newly drawn districts.

Republicans outnumber Democrats in Indiana's congressional delegation 7-2. But many in the party have suggested they should aim for all nine.

The GOP would likely target Indiana's 1st Congressional District, a longtime Democratic stronghold that encompasses Gary and other cities near Chicago in

the state's northwest corner. The seat held by third-term Democratic U.S. Rep. Frank Mrvan has been seen by Republicans as a possible pickup in recent elections.

Lawmakers in Indiana redrew the borders of the district to be slightly more favorable toward Republicans in the 2022 election, but did not entirely split it up. Indiana's Republican legislative leaders praised the districts' existing boundaries after adopting them four years ago.

"I believe these maps reflect feedback from the public and will serve Hoosiers well for the next decade," Bray said at the time.

The new maps were not challenged in court after they were approved in 2021, not even by Democrats and allies who had opposed the changes boosting GOP standing in the suburbs north of Indianapolis.

Mrvan still won reelection in 2022 and easily retained his seat in 2024.

Republicans could also zero in on Indiana's 7th Congressional District, composed entirely of Marion County and the Democratic stronghold of Indianapolis. But that option would be more controversial, potentially slicing up the state's largest city and diluting Black voters' influence.

Smoke testing OK'd ahead of upgrades to Wells Drive Lift Station

BY BOB DEMAREE

Steps are underway to prepare for upgrades to Madison's Wells Drive Lift Station including flow metering that has already been done and smoke testing that is expected to begin soon.

"These two projects are ultimately tying into the Wells Drive Lift Station upgrade which we're trying to eliminate issues before we upgrade it," Brian Jackson, the city's Utility Superintendent said at Monday's Board of Public Works and Safety meeting.

"The city of Madison is constantly investing in capacity building and modernizing our core infrastructure," said Mayor Bob Courtney. "As we have completed the major water improvement project from the past several years, we are now planning a major sewer project with much needed improvements to the Wells Drive lift station which serves a large part of our hilltop and will facilitate future growth, so capacity is critical. Brian Jackson knows our system better than anyone and is managing the testing and design phases now with our engineers."

In March, BPWS approved a flow metering study by Commonwealth Engineers at a cost of \$63,100. At Monday's meeting, the board approved another \$35,500 for

Commonwealth Engineers to oversee the smoking testing.

Rob Bellucci, project manager for Commonwealth Engineers, said the flow metering and smoke test are efforts to eliminate issues before the Wells Drive Lift Station is upgraded "so we know the amount of flow we're going to have to address with the new upgrade."

Bellucci said when the flow metering tests were conducted "there were good rain events while the meters were in the ground, and it was very obvious to us that we had clean water getting into our system" rather than the wastewater. He noted that when clean water (storm runoff) gets in the system it "takes up capacity at the wastewater plant. It costs more to treat and it fills up the plant faster."

Bellucci said now that a water infiltration issue is known, the smoke testing will help to determine areas where the stormwater is getting into the wastewater sewers.

"When there's more flow coming to that lift station than the lift station can take, it bursts, and that's how your system was built," he said. "We did a project 8 to 10 years ago where we addressed some of those areas but we knew we'd always have to come back and eventually address Wells Drive" lift station. "Now we're there."

Bellucci said the goal is to contain

the bursts to the limits required by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). "You can't do anything about an act of God event. The system can only take so much. The treatment plant can only take so much. IDEM puts requirements on your utility such that during certain specific rain events you've got to contain everything, and this is part of that effort."

Jackson said the smoke testing will occur at four areas that feed into the Wells Drive Lift Station — west of State Road 7 and north of Green Road, Oak Hill subdivision, west State Road 7 north of Clifty Drive and the area in the vicinity of Madison Mobile Village.

Once the smoke testing is done, Bellucci said Commonwealth will provide a report that identifies locations that need attention, then a plan to address them.

Commonwealth will get started on design of the Wells Drive Lift Station next year then potentially put the project out to bids in the fall of 2026 with construction anticipated to take 12 to 15 months.

In other business, the board:

- Approved a new process for special event permit applications that reduces the process from 36 pages to seven by creating three tier levels — tier one for events with

anticipated attendance under 500 that uses a city building or parks facility with no street closures, tier two for events with anticipated under 500 attendance that requires street or parking space closures, and tier three for anticipated attendance over 500 that requires the use of a city venue or park, and use of streets and parking spaces.

"We continue to have phenomenal events across our community almost every weekend but there needs to be more structure applied to it," said Courtney. "Event safety is still critical. We have events everywhere. In some instances we can't entirely protect the footprint but we're getting smarter about infrastructure that would better accommodate safety."

- Approved a memorandum of understanding for winter shelter operation at the Salvation Army beginning Nov. 1 through Oct. 31, 2026. The shelter will be open for emergency shelter between 7:30 p.m. and 7 a.m. when overnight temperatures are forecast to reach 32 degrees or lower, and contingent upon the availability of trained certified staff, volunteers and resources.
- Approved street closings for the city's Harvest Festival set for 4-7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 25, at Bicentennial Park. Street closings include a portion of Vaughn Drive and parking spaces in that area

including the Ohio River Legacy Park parking lot. Th board also approved \$1,960 for Honey Hill Farm to provide a petting zoo during that event.

- Approved the closing of Mulberry Street between Main and Third streets for the MadHop Festival beginning Thursday, Nov. 6, at 8 a.m., through Sunday, Nov. 9, at 6 p.m. Tony Novello, event coordinator for MadHop, said the main stage will be on Mulberry Street, moved from the parking lot that's not available this year. Last year, there were food vendors on Mulberry Street, but with the stage there, there's not room them there this year.
- Approved a PACE final midpoint award of \$12,500 for a \$25,000 dilapidated grant for 302 Marine Street to Dee Comstock. Also approved PACE final awards of \$7,500 for rehabilitation grants for 808 East Second Street to Brent Eyster and Susan Jette, and for 309 East Third Street to John Riddick and Shawn Hayden. Additionally, a \$5,862.50 final award for a rehabilitation grant for 409 East Main Street went to Robert Rouse and Kim Swenson.
- Recognized Code Enforcement Officer Duey O'Neal and Building Inspector Bryan Shaw for their service since October is National Code Enforcement month.

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE A1

popular with local residents, tourists and festivals.

Some of those same concerns were voiced during the public comment portion of Tuesday's meeting as well as pleas to not bring more development to an area where less — the departure of coal yards, junkyards and warehouses in favor of open space — is seen as more.

What was different about Tuesday's discussion is that, after listening to the public for weeks and weeks, the elected council members finally provided some insight on how they view the ordinance.

While Thevenow reiterated that the proposal was an obvious ploy to attract an investor to build an apartment building on the former Madison Coal Company site the city bought in 2021, with city and state funding for infrastructure as well as tax abatements as additional inducements, other council members said their focus Tuesday was on the zoning ordinance and what or who might development at the site in the future was a discussion to revisit if and when the city decides to sell the property for development.

Schafer, who along with Thevenow drafted the amendments that were unanimously approved prior to considering the ordinance, said a select committee Courtney named to review the amendments had resolved most of the issues opponents raised on the types of structures that could be developed in the Riverfront



Mark Campbell

With only a few chairs open at Tuesday's Madison City Council meeting, local residents listened to members of city council explain their votes on a Riverfront Development zoning ordinance that was opposed by most of those in attendance. After approving several amendments to the ordinance, the council voted 4-2 in favor of adoption.

Development zone from the height of buildings, to lot setbacks, parking and evacuation plans down to where dumpsters and trash receptacles can be placed.

Citing the alleged apartment building noted earlier in the process, Schafer said "a lot of changes have been made" specific to that proposal but also in general terms of development.

Referencing a picture of building in a postcard mailed to Madison residents by opponents of the zoning change, Schafer said, "You know what can't be built? That building. The amendments we've made make it impossible to build that building on that lot. But we're not here to vote on that building today. That will come back to us at a later date and we'll have to vote

to sell the lot, we'll have to vote on the funding and the bonds. That's a future discussion to be had ... tonight is about zoning. It's not about that project. To be honest I don't know how I'll vote if that project does come to fruition and it gets back in front of council."

Dattilo said she was initially "not pleased with having a Riverfront Development district" but with 80% of the riverfront currently in greenspace — including nine parks — and many of her constituents paying \$1,000 to \$2,000 a month for downtown housing that is less than 1,000 square feet and even then often substandard, maybe having more apartments would ease some of the strain on the market, force property owners to offer better and

more competitive accommodations and bring more residents downtown to support the "fragile downtown business district."

Bartlett said the area involved in the zoning change is less greenspace and more simply property locked out of being developed.

"The zoning opens up the opportunity for three blocks that currently are frozen," Bartlett said. "And to call them open space? Please, drive down those three blocks and look. There is one, possibly two, lots that are open space. They are gravel lots, or in one case, an open air warehouse. They are certainly not open space."

Courtney said the zoning change is an important start to a bigger conversation and while he'd love local

investment that has been a harder sell than to out-of-town partners.

"I'll admit, I'd love to see more local investment. Love it," the mayor said. "But we saw the Cotton Mill sit for over two decades blighted and abandoned. There was no local investment for it. That money came from Alaska. We saw the Sunrise Crossing hilltop up there sit for 20 years. Where was the local investment? That money came from Lexington, Kentucky.

"All across the city through my planning and economic development efforts, and through council support and leveraging tens of millions of dollars of grants, we have redeveloped multiple areas across our city through prudent planning and investment," Courtney added. "The Gateway, the grocery store, the shopping, the affordable housing, the Oak Hill Subdivision, Main Street — all over town. On our riverfront."

He said outsiders are viewing Madison as a better investment than its local property owners. What can be accomplished with outside investors with incentives often takes enforcement to accomplish with local property owners.

"We have about 100 structures that are abandoned and I totally agreed with the points that have been made here — that's available housing," he said. "Where's the local investment for that? ... We have to force it. We have to force your hands ... this community doesn't respect some of their neighborhoods, unfortunately. Almost 1,500 nuisance cases, dozens and dozens and dozens of unsafe structures.

"This property right here at the corner — a very important location at West and Second — how many years did it sit decaying and dilapidating? The person that owned it was local. They didn't invest in it" he added. "A person from Atlanta, Georgia, believes in Madison and sees the opportunity here and is willing to spend millions of dollars in a town she's never lived in and didn't grow up in. We've got to bring investment in. This proposal is intended to address a very blighted, neglected area of our beautiful riverfront. It's a three block area. There's a reason why there's no picnic tables down there. It's not greenspace. It's got a brownfield site in it. It's got an area where there used to be a junkyard."

The council members and mayor all thanked those who attended the meeting for their input — both in support and opposition to the zoning ordinance — noting that the dialogue led to the numerous amendments that were ultimately drafted into the ordinance.

Randy Bellamy, who has attended every meeting on the zoning proposal, and voiced his opposition to the plan each time, offered a parting shot before the vote. "You say you're listening but you sure as hell are not hearing. Because if you were hearing we'd not be here tonight."

Sandy Palmer, who also attended numerous meetings on the issue and spoke in opposition several times, called on a Joni Mitchell song as her final word before the vote. "They paved Paradise and put up a parking lot."

CITY

FROM PAGE A1

Main Street construction to include even more road surfacing and pedestrian safety elements. If we do not capture this opportunity now, the Central Business District will not see any improvements until 2033 or later," Courtney said. "By using local funds, we will not only accelerate the timing by at least five years, but also reduce our immediate expense by several millions of dollars. In the end, we are leveraging the city's investment 3.4:1 which is a great value for the residents of our city. My Director of Finance Mindy McGee and the city's team have worked hard to achieve those results."

The original budget for Main Street from Broadway Street to top of Hanover Hill was \$21,864,263, but McGee said the work is now expected to cost \$18,865,206.15 and "that does the whole thing in a lot shorter time."

All-Star Paving will be doing all of the work from Broadway Street to St. Michaels Avenue, picking up from the work that it is currently doing between Mill and Broadway streets.

Josh Darby an associate with Jacobi Toombs and Lanz, said that All-Star's workers are currently focused between Mill and Broadway on getting "all

the concrete work that touches the roadway done so they can come in and start the paving work," completing all the curbs and curb ramps, the beginning milling and paving in that section Oct. 20, weather permitting. With asphalt plants closing around Thanksgiving, Darby said the hope is to complete all the milling and paving from Mill Street to St. Michaels Avenue during this work season.

Darby said the plan is to mill one side of Main from the center line of roadway to the curb followed by paving, then come back and do the other side. Traffic will be moved to the side of the road where work isn't being done with one lane in each direction.

Work between Mill and Broadway streets is costing the city \$1,228,675.75, funded by a Community Crossings Matching Grant. The cost for milling, paving and restriping from Broadway to Mulberry streets is \$139,592 with \$49,928.35 for the mid-block flashing signal and cross walk that goes from the Main Street Comfort Station to the parking lot alongside Poplar Street. The cost for milling, paving and restriping from Mulberry Street to St. Michael's Avenue is \$231,537.85.

McGee responded to concerns about losing parking because the bump outs at the intersections that are now in the process of being created at Vine, Elm and Broadway streets. "The bump outs are designed within the

areas that are painted yellow. We did not go outside the lines that were painted yellow. You weren't parking there anyway. So, there's no parking loss."

Darby said the reason for the bump outs is traffic calming and traffic safety, which he said were identified in the Main Street master plan that was adopted in 2020.

"Speeds on Main Street is an issue, and pedestrian strikes or near strikes is an issue," he said, noting the Main Street is 60 feet wide from curb to curb. "It takes a long time for a person to cross that, and a lot of these intersections are not stop controlled. So, you've got people trying to cross a massive, busy intersection with no stop sign and nothing to stop traffic."

Darby said the bump outs provide a sense of narrowing the road that tends to slow traffic even though the travel lane remains the same width. Bump outs also reduce the length of the pedestrian crossing. "Instead of having to cross 60 feet of roadway on Main Street, now you only have to cross 40 feet, so it gets pedestrians out of the road quicker, and much safer for them with much more visibility."

He said there have been concerns about vehicles maneuvering the intersection, so they did a test with a fire truck, and it was successful. The intersection "was designed with

all those different vehicles in mind," Darby said.

Courtney reminded that Main Street is no longer a state highway "so it's not about how quick you can get the car from the bridge to the top of Hanover Hill. It's about how safe you can make our historic district and our Great American Main Street for pedestrians and visitors without limiting or taking away much time for a vehicle to still pass through that corridor." He said with travel lanes remaining the same, "we're just creating situational awareness and an environment that focuses on our neighborhoods rather than speeding travel through town."

Courtney noted that the city's safety investments are not just police and fire departments, but also infrastructure. "The best thing we can do to help police and fire departments to do their jobs is to have adequate infrastructure" that enhances the safety.

Darby said the portion of the Main Street project from Hanover Hill to McIntire Steet, which is funded with a federal grant that will total \$5 million (\$3,872,000 in federal dollars matched by \$1,128,000 from the city), is expected to go to bid in the fall of 2026 with work beginning in the spring of 2027.

There are also planned upgrades to the west end bridge at the city's gateway that include sidewalks to

the trail extension and crosswalk safety features at a cost of \$605,000 covered by Redevelopment Commission funds.

The work on Main Street from McIntire Street to Mill Street currently is expected to cost \$9,825,450 (\$7,860,360 in federal dollars with a \$1,965,090 city match) but McGee said there have been efforts to lower that cost so estimates may decrease.

The project also provides for traffic signal upgrades next year on Main Street at the intersections of West, Mulberry and Broadway streets. The improvements at West and Mulberry streets are funded by \$598,950 from an Indiana Department of Transportation safety grant while the Broadway intersection will require \$300,000 from the city's Redevelopment Commission.

"Through all of the footprint, the traffic signals will be upgraded to modern signals, and audible crosswalk signals" with the exception of the one at the Main Street Comfort Station, said McGee, noting the audible crosswalks provide safety for those who are sight and hearing impaired.

The city had previously spent \$686,064 for Main Street restoration with a liquid road surface to preserve the surface until milling and paving could be done. "I'm very happy with the way that maintained the road," McGee said.

Sports

1A BOYS SOCCER SECTIONAL



David Campbell

Southwestern's Adith Arunsanhar (11) and Angel Hernandez-Perez (9) celebrate after Arunsanhar's goal in the Rebels' 3-2 win over Shawe in the boys soccer sectional opener on Monday.

Fluke goal difference as Southwestern guts out win over rival Shawe 3-2

BY DAVID CAMPBELL

SHELBYVILLE — In a matchup between two teams as evenly-matched as Southwestern and Shawe, it was no surprise that it took a fluke goal to decide the outcome.

An own goal off a Southwestern free kick in the 67th minute ended up being the game-winner as No. 17 Southwestern outlasted No. 5 Shawe 3-2 in the opening round of the Class A Boys Soccer Sectional Tournament at Southwestern (Shelby) on Monday.

The two teams were nearly even in shots taken and both earned every score they got. But a deflection in a scrum in front of the goal was the difference between celebration and sorrow.

"This is probably one of the best games in all of the state of Indiana," Southwestern coach Cam Rogers said. "They have a top 10 team and we've been in and out of the rankings as well. And it's just two very skilled teams that played really hard until the end, and we knew it was going to be a hard fought game the whole time."

Southwestern followed up Monday's win over Shawe with a 2-0 victory over host No. 15 Southwestern (Shelby) in the semifinals on Wednesday. The Rebels will now play for the sectional championship against Trinity Lutheran at 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Shawe's only loss of the regular season was to Southwestern, which leveraged that win to claim the Ohio River Valley Conference championship. The Rebels continued that advantage in the first half, getting goals from Adith Arunsanhar and Connor Johnson to take a 2-0 lead. Arunsanhar's marker came when he collected the rebound of Johnson's shot,

SEE **FLUKE/PAGE B6**



David Campbell

Southwestern's Connor Johnson (left) consoles Shawe's Leo Garcia after the Rebels scored a 3-2 win over the Hilltoppers in the boys soccer sectional opener on Monday.

IHSAA volleyball tournament pairings set

BY THE COURIER STAFF

The IHSAA draw was held for the 2025 girls volleyball state tournament on Sunday.

The four area teams will play at three different locations with Madison hosting the Class 3A tournament beginning on Tuesday, Oct. 14. The semifinals and championships will be held on Saturday, Oct. 18.

The pairings were:

CLASS 3A SECTIONAL 30 AT MADISON
Tuesday, Oct. 14

Match 1 — Charlestown vs. Scottsburg, 6 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 16
Match 2 — Madison vs. Corydon, 6 p.m.

Match 3 — Brownstown vs. Silver Creek, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 16
Match 4 — North Harrison vs. Winner Match 1, 11 a.m.

Match 5 — Winner Match 2 vs. Winner Match 3, 1 p.m.

Championship — Winner Match 4 vs. Winner Match 5, 6 p.m.

CLASS 2A SECTIONAL 45 AT SOUTH RIPLEY

Thursday, Oct. 16
Match 1 — Brown Co. vs. Austin, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 18
Match 2 — Southwestern vs. Switzerland Co., 11 a.m.

Match 3 — South Ripley vs. Winner Match 1, 1 p.m.

Championship — Winner Match 2 vs. Winner Match 3, 6 p.m.

CLASS A SECTIONAL 60 AT HAUSER
Tuesday, Oct. 14

Match 1 — Jac-Cen-Del vs. Hauser, 6 p.m.

Match 2 — Shawe vs. Rising Sun, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 16
Match 3 — Milan vs. Oldenburg, 6 p.m.

Match 4 — Trinity Lutheran vs. Crothersville, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 18
Match 5 — Winner Match 1 vs. Winner Match 2, 11 a.m.

Match 6 — Winner Match 3 vs. Winner Match 4, 12:30 p.m.

Championship — Winner Match 5 vs. Winner Match 6, 6 p.m.

LOCAL SPORTS CALENDAR

Friday, Oct. 10

Football

Madison at Corydon, 7 p.m.
Switzerland Co. hosts Brown Co., 7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 11

Cross Country

Shawe, Southwestern, Switzerland Co., ORVC Championships at Hanover College, 9:30 a.m.

Football

Hanover at Mount St. Joseph, 1:30 p.m.

Golf

Hanover women, HCAC Preview at Anderson, 10 a.m.

Soccer

Hanover women at Bluffton, 1 p.m.
Madison boys vs. Franklin Co./Batesville, IHSAA Class 2A Sectional Championship at Batesville, 2 p.m.
Southwestern boys vs. Trinity Lutheran, IHSAA Class A Sectional Championship at Southwestern (Shelby), 2 p.m.
Hanover men at Bluffton, 3:30 p.m.
Madison/Corydon girls vs. Scottsburg/Silver Creek, IHSAA Class 2A Sectional Championship at Silver Creek, 7 p.m.
Shawe/Trinity Lutheran girls vs. Providence/Christian Academy, IHSAA Class A Sectional Championship at Trinity Lutheran, 7 p.m.

p.m.
Switzerland Co./Oldenburg girls vs. Rising Sun/South Ripley, IHSAA Class 2A Sectional Championship at Milan, 7 p.m.
Volleyball
Trimble Co. girls, Oldham Co. Invite, 8 a.m.
Southwestern girls, Edinburgh Invite, 9 a.m.
Switzerland Co. girls, New Washington Invite, 9 a.m.
Hanover at Bluffton, 1 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 12

Golf

Hanover women, HCAC Preview at Anderson, 10 a.m.

Volleyball

Hanover at Ohio Wesleyan, noon

Monday, Oct. 13

Soccer

Carroll Co. boys, KHSAA 8th Region Tournament, TBA
Carroll Co. girls, KHSAA 8th Region Tournament, TBA

Volleyball

Trimble Co. girls host Oldham Co., 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 14

Volleyball

Shawe girls vs. Rising Sun, IHSAA Class A Sectional at Hauser, 7:30 p.m.



David Campbell

Madison's Kenzie Smith (left) and teammate Maggie Stivers celebrate after Smith scored the Cubs' first goal in a 9-0 sectional soccer win over North Harrison on Tuesday.

2A GIRLS SOCCER SECTIONAL

No. 13 Madison opens title defense 9-0 over North Harrison

BY DAVID CAMPBELL

SELLERSBURG — Class 2A No. 13 Madison opened defense of its girls sectional soccer championship with a 9-0 rout of North Harrison in the opening round of the tourney Tuesday at Silver Creek.

The Cubs dominated North Harrison 43-0 in shots and spent the entire game doing whatever they wanted. Madison's ninth goal, scored by senior star Kyra Ayler in the 68th minute, ended the match 12 minutes early on the mercy rule.

"We're pretty proud of the girls. We haven't played a game in about eight days, so it's a little bit to overcome in terms of just getting back into competition against someone other than your teammates," Madison coach Marcus Hale said. "Part of defending is through attacking and we know the other team wanted to possess a bit more. We're able to accomplish that tonight. So I'm pretty happy with what we were able to do today."

Madison dominated the game from the opening kick and began firing away nearly from the start. The Cubs had 11 shots before finally breaking through

on a Kenzie Smith marker in the 13th minute and never looked back.

Maggie Stivers followed Smith's goal three minutes later off a nice cross from Tessa Renfrow and Renfrow got on the board in the 20th minute on a breakaway. Annalise Roney scored her first goal of the season in the 30th minute and Ayler hammered in a long shot from 30 yards out in the 39th minute to stake Madison to a 5-0 halftime lead.

Ayler scored again off the opening kick of the second half and Smith picked up her second goal of the game in the 49th minute. Kenzie Randall scored off a Renfrow assist in the 66th minute and Ayler, Madison's career scoring leader, ended the game in the 68th minute.

In all, Madison had 26 shots on goal with North Harrison goalie Lucy Flickner stopping 17 shots. The Cubs also had three corner kicks to none by the LadyCats and were whistled for three fouls to one by North Harrison (4-12).

The win sent Madison into Thursday's semifinals to face Corydon, a 3-2 winner over Charlestown that the Cubs had beaten 10-0 earlier in the season. A win there and Madison will play either Silver Creek or Scottsburg in the sectional

championship on Saturday night. The Cubs hammered both teams earlier this season.

Despite the previous successes, Hale wants his team to stay focused as they chase their second-straight sectional crown.

"Just because you have one result during the season, doesn't mean you're going to get the same result when you get into these games," Hale said. "We couldn't be more proud of them. We came here tonight, did what we had to do, and we're going to go home with an opportunity to play again against Corydon Central on Thursday."

SHAWE GAINS FORFEIT

Shawe advanced in the Class A Girls Soccer Sectional at Trinity Lutheran on Wednesday without playing a game after Southwestern was forced to forfeit.

The Lady Rebelsm down to just seven players due to injuries and vacations, decided to withdraw from the tourney rather than risk further injury and play shorthanded.

Shawe, now 12-3 on the season and ranked 16th in Class A, played host

SEE **MADISON/PAGE B6**

2A BOYS SOCCER SECTIONAL



Madison’s Giovanni Robledo Lopez reacts after scoring what would be the winning goal in the Cubs’ 1-0 win over Lawrenceburg in the boys soccer sectional semifinals on Wednesday at Batesville.



Madison’s Madden Peelman (27) leaps over Lawrenceburg’s Morgan Davis during the soccer sectional semifinals at Batesville on Wednesday.

Madison guts out wins over Dearborn, Lawrenceburg to reach sectional finals

BY DAVID CAMPBELL

BATESVILLE — Madison boys soccer coach Kyle Boekeloo said he had been thinking about last year's sectional championship loss to Lawrenceburg for nearly a year and on Wednesday, the Cubs finally got their revenge.

Giovanni Robledo Lopez attacked on a cross from Charles Schwartz less than a minute before halftime that proved to be the winning goal as Madison posted a 1-0 win over the Tigers in the Class 2A Boys Soccer Sectional semifinals at Batesville.

The Cubs were on the wrong side of a 1-0 match with Tigers in the finals a year ago and finished in a 0-0 draw with Lawrenceburg earlier this year so Wednesday's win was finally a chance to get some closure.

"I don't know if the boys looked at it like that, but I did," Boekeloo said with a smile. "We look back to last year and they got us. We had a game plan today, and the boys absolutely just executed the game plan. And I mean, they played probably their best game all season."

The win over Lawrenceburg came on the heels of a 1-1 (4-2) shootout win over South Dearborn in the opening round on Monday. The Cubs will now play Batesville (5-8-2), a 5-1 winner over Franklin County, in the sectional championship on Saturday afternoon.

Wednesday's game was a battle from the start. The two teams combined to take only 16 shots in the game with only seven on frame so every opportunity was golden.

It was Madison that had the more chances including

two good looks at the net in the first half before finally breaking through in the 39th minute. Schwartz collected the ball on the far right side of the basket and after faking out a defender, sent a low cross into the box where Lopez was waiting. The junior slid to connect with the ball and pushed it past a defender and Lawrenceburg goalie Jensen Mulcahey into the net.

The goal stood up thanks in large part to a Madison defense that simply denied Lawrenceburg the ball. The Tigers had only six shots in the game and their best attempt, a header in the box off a free kick, was gobbled up by goalie Xander Bauer.

"We always say that if we can defend and we can keep that score at zero, there's a really good chance that we'll end up on the right side of the scoreboard," Boekeloo

said. "We can win a game 1-0, and these guys committed to it and they executed it. And when we needed to go forward, we went forward and we got it done there."

Bauer and Mulcahey both ended with three saves on the night. Madison had two corner kicks to one by Lawrenceburg and the Tigers were whistled nine times to six for the Cubs.

PACERS FALL TO LAWRENCEBURG

Switzerland County saw its season end with a 3-0 loss to Lawrenceburg in the opening round of the sectional on Monday.

Goalkeeper Nate Williams had three saves for the Pacers in the loss.

Switzerland ends the season with a 10-5-2 record. Lawrenceburg went on to lose to Madison 1-0 on Wednesday.

Carroll's Battaglia closes out high school golf career

BY PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

Carroll County’s Dustin battaglia closed out his stellar high school career by carding a 10-over 82 at the KHSAA boys golf state semifinals at Pendleton Hills Golf Course last Wednesday to miss advancing to a state finals playoff by three strokes.

Battaglia had advanced to the semifinals — his third straight trip — as an individual by shooting a 79

at the regional played at Henry County Country Club. Meanwhile, Henry County capped a stellar 2025 season — and the Wildcats first ever regional championship — with a sixth place finish at the KHSAA state semifinals at Pendleton Hills. Brody Cross and Nicholas Bryan shot an 80 each to tie for 30th place

but also miss the cut. Isaac Abney tied for 47th place with an 84 and Baylor Nolin and Dean Miskell had a pair of 86s to tie for 57th place.

Regional runner-up Owen County also missed the cut and was led by Ezekiel Mefford with an 85 and Judah Mefford with a 90.

St. Xavier (299) won the semistate while Ryle (304)

and Christian Academy-Louisville (311) also advance to the state finals. Christian Academy of Louisville’s Will Judd was the state semifinals champion with a 2-under 72 that was the only sub-par round of the event.

The nine teams qualifying from Kentucky’s three semistates are: McCracken County, Greenwood, Marshall County, St. Xavier, Ryle, CAL, Madison Central, Rockcastle County, and Pulaski County.



Dustin Battaglia

Rebels fall in tennis regional

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Southwestern boys tennis saw its unbeaten season come to an end Wednesday with a 5-0 loss to host Columbus North in the IHSAA Regional semifinals at Columbus.

Southwestern senior Braxton Lewis capped his high school career with 81 wins, tying Braden Helton for the most in school history.

The Rebels wrapped up the season with a school-record 19-1 record.

31ST DISTRICT SOCCER

Carroll boys, girls roll to district titles

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Carroll County boys soccer rolled to its third-straight 31st District championship with a 5-0 win over Gallatin County Wednesday at Henry County.

Gamaliel Maldonado scored four goals for the Panthers and Cesar Castillo had an assist. Goalkeeper Chris Perez had three saves.

Carroll opened defense of its district championship with a 14-0 rout of Owen County on Monday in the semifinals.

Carroll got seven goals by Maldonado in the semifinal win while J.T. Davis, Dani Martinez, Zachary Richards, Jerek Garrett, Gerson Medina, David Zeitz and Joshua Barrera-Diaz had a goal each and Richards, Medina, Castillo and Jorge Avila Burgueno had an assist each.

Perez needed only one save to keep Owen scoreless and post the clean sheet.

Carroll, now 14-3 on the season, will play in the Eighth Region Tournament

next week. Pairings have yet to be announced but the tourney will be contested at Carroll County.

CARROLL GIRLS BEAT HENRY

Carroll County girls soccer topped host Henry County for its fourth straight 31st District championship on Wednesday in New Castle.

Henry had ousted Owen County 3-0 on Monday to set up the showdown with the top-seeded Panthers for the district title on Wednesday.

Carroll, 7-8-1, was a perfect 4-0 in the district during the regular season including 3-1 and 4-0 wins over Henry to earn a bye into the championship game of the three team district.

No results for the match were available.

Henry County, 3-10-0, and Carroll both advance to next week's Eighth Region Tournament. Pairings have yet to be announced but the tourney will be contested at Carroll County.

VOLLEYBALL ROUNDUP

Cubs split two against former HHC foes

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Madison split a pair of volleyball matches against former Hoosier Hills Conference foes earlier this week.

On Monday, Madison knocked off Bedford North Lawrence 3-0 (25-21, 25-12, 25-17) on the road and on Tuesday lost a nail-biter at Columbus East, 3-2 (25-27, 25-20, 20-25, 25-20, 15-7). No individual stats for either game were available.

Madison, now 22-9 on the season, will host the IHSAA Class 3A Sectional next week. The Cubs open the tournament against Corydon Central on Thursday, Oct. 16.

REBELS BEAT PACERS

Southwestern picked up a 3-0 win over Switzerland County on Tuesday in Vevay.

Rorie Scroggins had 10 kills, one block and three aces for the Rebels. Jenna Owens had seven kills, six aces and seven digs, Josie Hubbard had six kills, Hillarie Buchanan had two kills, five aces and 23 assists and Jocelyn Johnson had one ace and 21 digs.

No stats for Switzerland County were available. The Pacers, now 4-17 and 1-4 Ohio River Valley Conference, hosted Milan on Thursday and plays in the New Washington Invitational on

Saturday.

Southwestern, now 14-11 overall and 2-3 ORVC, hosted Henryville on Thursday and plays in the Edinburgh Invitational on Saturday.

Southwestern and Switzerland County will meet again in the semifinals of the Class 2A Sectional at South Ripley on Saturday, Oct. 18.

TRIMBLE DROPS TWO

Trimble County lost a pair of matches earlier this week against Scott County and Walton-Verona.

On Monday, the Raiders fell 2-0 (25-12, 25-16) at Scott. Emery Pierce had eight kills and six digs, Anna Brierly had 17 digs and Emma Heaton had 10 assists and eight digs.

On Tuesday, Trimble lost 3-2 (25-18, 23-25, 21-25, 25-19, 15-9) to Walton-Verona at home. Pierce had 17 kills, 11 digs and four aces, Ellianna Pennix had 12 kills, four blocks and 11 assists, Bella Stewart had 10 kills, four blocks and three aces, Brierly had 21 digs, Georgia Avena had 15 digs and Kendall Holbrook had 11 assists.

Trimble, now 12-17 on the season, hosts Oldham County on Monday and Portland Christian on Tuesday.

NCAA moves closer to allowing college athletes to bet on pro sports

BY DOUG FEINBERG ASSOCIATED PRESS

The NCAA moved a step closer Wednesday to allowing athletes and athletic department staff members to bet on professional sports.

The Division I Administrative Committee approved the change, which must still be approved by Division II and III for it to go into effect.

If approved by all three divisions, it would go into

effect Nov. 1.

“The Administrative Committee was clear in its discussion today that it remains concerned about the risks associated with all forms of sports gambling but ultimately voted to reduce restrictions on student-athletes in this area to better align with their campus peers,” said Josh Whitman, athletics director at Illinois and chair

Mendoza finds a home in the Midwest with Cignetti's resurgent Hoosiers

BY MICHAEL MAROT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quarterback Fernando Mendoza entered the transfer portal last year looking for a new challenge.

His younger brother, Alberto, delivered the perfect pitch.

Soon, the freshman who committed to James Madison out of high school and followed coach Curt Cignetti to Indiana convinced his older, higher-profile brother to join him in Bloomington and now the Mendoza brothers are the top two quarterbacks on the seventh-ranked and still unbeaten Hoosiers.

“It's that drive to be perfect,” Fernando Mendoza said after last month's 63-10 rout over then-No. 9 Illinois. “That's the reason I came here — to become the best quarterback I could and see my development accelerate. I want to keep on accelerating and keep having exponential growth throughout the season.”

Even a master strategist such as Cignetti finds it hard to quibble with the early results.

Through five games, Mendoza has thrown 16 touchdowns and one interception. His completion percentage of 73.0% ranks ninth nationally and only Marshall quarterback Carlos Del Rio-Wilson has a better quarterback rating than Mendoza's 197.8.

If he continues playing this efficiently, some think he could join the Heisman Trophy race — or maybe even become the first quarterback selected in April's NFL draft. And if he's able to keep Indiana (5-0, 2-0 Big Ten) perfect Saturday when it visits No. 3 Oregon (5-0, 2-0), the revised version of Fernandomania could really take off.

STAYING FOCUSED
The level-headed Mendoza and blunt-talking Cignetti have ignored the chatter and are focused on one thing — playing Indiana football.

“He made some outstanding throws against Iowa, he left some plays out there, too, but he was under pressure quite a bit,” Cignetti said referring to Indiana's 20-15 victory two weeks ago in their first road game. “I just want Fernando, like the rest of the guys on the team, to relax and play their game. We're just going to go out there and play our game and play it well.”

The Iowa experience certainly could help the Hoosiers this weekend.

Mendoza now understands how hostile Big Ten road



Charlie Neibergall/AP Photo

Indiana quarterback Fernando Mendoza warms up before an NCAA college football game against Iowa on Sept. 27 in Iowa City, Iowa.



Charlie Neibergall/AP Photo

Indiana quarterback Fernando Mendoza (15) runs from Iowa defensive lineman Max Llewellyn, left, during the second half of an NCAA college football game on Sept. 27 in Iowa City, Iowa.

crowds can be and how inhospitable defenses feed off the crowd noise to pressure quarterbacks. Still, when it mattered most, Mendoza looked just fine. He beat an Iowa blitz with a 49-yard catch-and-run, tiebreaking TD to Elijah Sarratt with 88 seconds to go before finally sealing the win with a 40-yard sprint through his own end zone as the clock expired.

He also has the advantage of knowing what to expect Saturday. Two years ago, he made his fifth college start back in Eugene. Things didn't go nearly so smoothly that day as Mendoza went 18 of 34 with 177 yards and one interception in California's 63-10 loss to Oregon.

Things didn't go particularly well for Mendoza in either of his two seasons as Cal's starter, posting a record of 10-10. He threw 14 TD passes and 10 interceptions in 2023 and was sacked 41 times last year, the second-most in the Football Bowl Subdivision.

ON THE MOVE

Eventually, the guy who traded the sun-drenched beaches of his South Florida home for the hills of Northern California made one more unthinkable move — teaming up with his brother in the flat, sometimes snowy

Midwest to keep Indiana in the playoff hunt for a second straight year.

“We watch film together, we get better together, we have tough times together,” Fernando Mendoza said during spring practice, noting he studied the Hoosiers playbook before ever attending a class. “Having that playbook at home already, because Alberto was in my parent's house, I definitely started diving into it during Christmas break in the off time. Ever since I've been trying to be consistent in the film room, in the playbook in order to gain a mastery (of the offense).”

So far, it's been everything he could have envisioned.

Mendoza is playing at a high level, winning, turning heads. His draft stock is soaring and everybody's starting to learn his name. But what Mendoza has enjoyed most is exactly what his brother sold him on — being pushed by Cignetti.

“He's a phenomenal coach, a phenomenal guy, and he holds you to a high standard, and that's the main reason I came here,” Mendoza said. “He's an offensive mind. He holds everyone to a high standard, his program always wins and those are two things I wanted — to be held to a high standard and win.”



Paul Beaty/AP Photo

Notre Dame's Jordan Botelho (12) and Boubacar Traore (5) sack Purdue quarterback Ryan Browne (15) during the first quarter of an NCAA football game on Sept. 20 in South Bend, Ind.

Traore's strong return from season-ending injury helps solidify No. 16 Notre Dame's defense

BY CURT RALLO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Defensive end Boubacar Traore gave Notre Dame a glimpse of what he could do in five games last season.

Then a knee injury forced him to wait for almost a whole year to get his next opportunity.

What he learned as he watched his teammates reach the national championship game has helped propel Traore to new heights this season as he helps solidify the Fighting Irish defense.

“I feel like that's what really helped me when I was gone, I was reading the playbook, watching a lot of football, so I feel like that's what helped me play faster,” he said Tuesday. “I feel like my impact is just doing what I do, playing violent in the run game and getting after the quarterback.”

The 6-foot-4, 250-pound second-year player certainly is doing his part. He has played 210 snaps, easily the most of any defensive linemen. Gabriel Rubio is second at 152.

It's not just how much Traore has been on the field — it's his productivity when he

is on the field.

Traore returned from a torn ACL by posting a career-high six tackles and recording a fourth-quarter sack that helped give Notre Dame a chance to rally in its 27-24 season-opening loss at then-No. 10 Miami. And after a 41-40 Game 2 loss to then-No. 16 Texas A&M, Traore helped the Irish defense rebound with a strip-sack and two additional tackles for loss in a blowout win over Purdue.

Now after three straight wins has helped put No. 16 Notre Dame (3-2) back in the playoff discussion, Traore hopes to keep the momentum building when the Irish host N.C. State (4-2) on Saturday.

“He's very talented,” defensive back Christian Gray said. “You can see that he's very athletic. He's one of the most athletic defensive ends I've ever seen. So having him out there is just really great. As the back seven, we just, you know, scrap as best we can, and then we see Boubacar already getting the sack in like five seconds. It's just great having him on that field. He just dominates.”

That's a big reason Notre

Dame's defense appears to have overcome its early season struggles. It has allowed just two touchdowns in its last two games, with Traore logging two sacks and eight tackles during that span.

The Irish saw this potential last season when Traore burst onto the scene after an injury to another player put him in the starting lineup. All he did was make plays. His interception return for a touchdown in the first half at Purdue helped propel Notre Dame to a 66-7 rout.

Two weeks later, though, his season ended against Louisville.

Defensive line coach Al Washington said during summer camp that he wanted Traore to be explosive this season, but he also wanted him to last through the whole season. Initially, the Irish appeared to play it cautiously, but there are no restrictions now.

Traore spent his recovery focusing on getting stronger and learning more about the game to be ready so he could excel in the system implemented by new defensive coordinator Chris Ash.

The Rising Cost of Living and the Shrinking Power of Social Security



Layin' it on the line

By Stephen Dybwad
Retirement Planning/
Wealth Management

The Rising Cost of Living and the Shrinking Power of Social Security is a growing concern for millions of retirees and those nearing retirement. While Social Security was never designed to be the sole source of income in retirement, more and more Americans are relying on it as their financial foundation. Unfortunately, the buying power of those benefits is steadily being eroded by inflation, rising health care costs, and a cost of living that seems to outpace the official adjustments provided by the Social Security Administration. Each year, Social Security benefits are adjusted with a Cost-of-Living Adjustment

(COLA) based on the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). However, the CPI-W does not always reflect the true inflation retirees face-especially in critical areas like medical care, housing, and long-term services. While the COLA may offer a modest increase year to year, it often falls short of matching the actual rise in expenses seniors experience. Consider this: over the last two decades, health care costs have risen at nearly twice the rate of inflation. Prescription drug prices, Medicare premiums, supplemental insurance, and out-of-pocket expenses continue to climb. At the same time, food, utilities, and transportation have all seen consistent price increases. A retiree living primarily on Social Security is essentially fighting an uphill battle every year just to maintain the same standard of living. The erosion of Social Security's purchasing power means that what feels sufficient today may not be adequate tomorrow. Without supplemental income, retirees often find themselves cutting corners, delaying care, or dipping into savings far earlier than planned. And as life expectancy increases, those consequences become

even more serious. This shrinking power calls for proactive planning. Creating additional streams of income is no longer optional-it's essential. Fixed indexed annuities, for example, can provide guaranteed lifetime income that complements Social Security and can be structured to grow over time, helping to offset inflation's impact. A diversified retirement plan that includes safe, reliable sources of income allows retirees to maintain their independence and dignity, no matter how costs rise. Social Security is a valuable resource, but it was never built to keep pace with today's economy. To preserve your lifestyle and protect against the rising cost of living, you must take control of the income you'll need-now and well into the future.

Stephen Dybwad, a long-time Hoosier resident, is a member of Syndicated Columnists, a national organization committed to a fully transparent approach to money management. Syndicated Columnists is the sole provider of this material, both written and conceptual, for this column. All rights reserved.

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Stephen Dybwad
(annuity.com)

LOCAL LEAGUES

**MONDAY, OCT. 6
MADISON
CHURCH VOLLEYBALL
LEAGUE RESULTS
HALLELUJAH DIVISION**
First Baptist d. 24/7 Life No. 2, 25-7, 25-18.
Falls City No. 3 d. 24/7 Life No. 2, 25-18, 25-18.
Mount Pleasant Baptist d.

Wirt Baptist No. 2, 25-13, 26-24.
Wirt Baptist No. 2 d. Falls City No. 2, 25-23, 16-25, 15-11.
Riverstone No. 2 d. New Heart No. 1, 25-23, 25-20.
Falls City No. 1 d. New Heart No. 2, 25-17, 25-8.

PRAISE DIVISION
Wirt Baptist No. 1 d.
Hanover United Methodist, forfeit
Wirt Baptist No. 1 d. Riverstone No. 1, 25-14, 25-16.
Riverstone No. 1 d. Hanover United Methodist, forfeit
24/7 Life No. 1 d. Dupont Baptist, 25-15, 25-27, 15-6.

HANOVER ROUNDUP

Panthers knock off MSJ in mens soccer 3-2

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Hanover men's soccer improved to 3-0 in Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference play with a 3-2 win at Mount St. Joseph on Wednesday.

Brandon Elizarraras, Omar Dizdar and Gavin Yearwood each scored goals for the Panthers with Patricio Campos, Andrew Beck and Matt Burchett getting assists. Goalie Rodrigo Gutierrez Olvera Gonzalez had four saves.

Hanover, now 8-2-2 overall on the season and winners of six-straight, travels to Bluffton

on Saturday and heads to Berea next Wednesday.

WOMEN FALL TO MSJ

Hanover women's soccer suffered a 2-1 loss at home to Mount St. Joseph on Wednesday.

Lauren Rainbolt scored the goal and Olivia Patel had the assist for the Panthers. Emma Patterson had one save in goal for Hanover.

Hanover, now 3-6-2 overall and 1-2 in the HCAC, travels to Bluffton on Saturday hosts Berea next Wednesday.

MEN'S GOLF PLAYS AT WABASH

Hanover men's golf competed in the Wabash Fall Invitational this week, placing 18th with a three-round score of 965.

Jacob Knapp shot a 238 to tie for 78th to lead Hanover. rock Bredehoft was 81st with a 239, Jackson Beam tied for 90th with a 246, Alex Wright tied for 92nd with a 248 and Brock Thacker was 95th with a 251.

Hanover next competes in the HCAC Preview event in Richmond, Kentucky, Oct. 18-19.

Taylor wastes no time in naming Flacco the Bengals' starting quarterback

BY CHARLIE GOLDSMITH
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Coach Zac Taylor immediately welcomed Joe Flacco when he connected with him over the phone after the Cincinnati Bengals acquired the veteran quarterback from the Cleveland Browns on Tuesday.

The second thing was to tell Flacco that he'd be starting on Sunday against the Green Bay Packers.

"I've only met him once before he came here, but I know his game," Taylor said Wednesday after announcing Flacco would start. "Played against him I don't know many times, a lot of times. Very comfortable with his style, concepts he's been good at, things that fit us that we do. The terminology there is a lot of carryover, more so than what I would have anticipated, so feel like we can get him up to speed quickly."

Taylor benched Jake Browning after three starts that resulted in blowout losses. In those three games, Browning completed 64.1% of his passes and threw five interceptions.

With the Bengals holding a 2-3 record in a wide-open AFC North, the front office explored the trade market for a new starting quarterback and landed on the 40-year-old Flacco.

"He's a great passer," Taylor said. "We've got to expand all areas of our offense to be better, to be efficient, to run the ball better, to protect, all that kind of stuff. The No. 1 trait you're looking for is a guy that can operate your system and throw the football. Joe's always been a tremendous passer in this league and have seen it. We've got tremendous weapons he



Jeff Dean/AP Photo

Cincinnati Bengals head coach Zac Taylor talks with the media after an NFL football game against the Detroit Lions on Sunday in Cincinnati.

can play around and so I'm excited to watch him do it."

Flacco debuted in 2008 and has played in exactly 200 NFL games. He opened this season as the Browns' starting quarterback, and he nearly led that team to a win over the Bengals in Week 1.

In Week 3, Flacco's Browns beat the Packers, 13-10. Flacco, who completed 21 of 36 passes for 142 yards and an interception on Sept. 21, already has game-planned for Green Bay's defense, and there's not much around the league that he hasn't seen from defenses.

"It's different than a young quarterback coming in trying to learn the system and understand what a defense is trying to do to challenge you," Taylor said. "He's played Green Bay this year, so he's already gone through a week of prep. That's the nice part. The communication and the weekly rhythm is maybe different and unique. He's already prepared for this opponent. He gets a chance to refresh himself on that, while at the same time learning our system and our terminology and our verbiage and how we operate. He hasn't played there this year, so the

crowd noise and all that stuff is different, but at least he's got some experience playing against them."

The Bengals move forward with Browning as their backup and former Packers backup QB Sean Clifford as the third-string option on their practice squad.

Browning stood at his locker after Wednesday's practice and wasn't happy about being benched.

"Welcome to pro football. If you don't play well, you are going to get replaced. And that's what I am going through," he said. "Obviously, I am (miffed). If I wasn't (miffed), I shouldn't be in this locker room. It's important to me. I am aware of the role I played in the offensive struggles the last few weeks, but I am also not shouldering the entire situation. I went through yesterday, watched my throws, came up with some stuff that I want to work on."

Packers coach Matt LaFleur said Wednesday he thought Flacco would be able to fit into the Bengals' offense in a short period of time.

"I think the hardest thing for them is going to be just

the nuances, with your cadence, your snap count, with the rapport you have with the other players," LaFleur said. "I think either way, whoever the quarterback is, you got to, you got to go against what they've traditionally put on film over a long period of time."

Getting Flacco up to speed started quickly after the trade was finalized on Tuesday. Taylor and Flacco spoke about the game plan on the phone during Flacco's drive from Cleveland to Cincinnati.

"He fits what we do," Taylor said. "You don't have to change too much. You just have to get him up to speed with the whole scope of what we have in our arsenal."

EMPLOYMENT

Hanover College is seeking applications for an Assistant Director of Student Financial Services. Primary duties include providing a high-level of support to prospective and current students during the financial aid process, assisting in creating financial aid packages, holding financial aid information sessions, and resolving student issues. This individual will serve as a liaison for the Offices of Student Financial Services and Admission to optimize customer service. They will also directly manage the College's federal work study (FWS) program. Hanover College is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to providing a welcoming college environment. We encourage all who are interested to apply at <https://www.hanover.edu/about/employment/>.

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SCOTTSBURG 7 1/2 ACRES OPEN/WOODS CREEK & DRIVEWAY \$97,900
LEXINGTON 2+ ACRES OPEN SOME FENCE UTILS AT ROAD \$43,900
BLOCHER 5 1/4 ACRES WOODS DRIVEWAY SEPTIC APPROVED JEFF. CO. \$79,900
LEXINGTON 7 ACRES OPEN/WOODS POND & CREEK UTILITIES AT ROAD \$95,900
SALEM 4 1/2 ACRES OPEN/WOODS CREEK DRIVEWAY SEPTIC APPROVED \$62,900
LEXINGTON 4+ ACRES OPEN WITH FENCING UTILITIES AT ROAD \$69,900
LITTLE YORK 3+ ACRES WOODED PRIVATE SEPTIC APPROVED UTILS ROAD \$51,900



AJ Mast/AP Photo

Indianapolis Colts place kicker Spencer Shrader (3) celebrates with teammates after kicking a game winning field goal during the second half of an NFL football game against the Denver Broncos on Sunday in Indianapolis.

Badgley returns to Colts after 15-month recovery from torn hamstring

BY MICHAEL MAROT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — Michael Badgley spent nearly 15 months recovering from a torn hamstring, fully anticipating he'd get another shot to kick in the NFL.

Well, the Money Badger is back.

The Indianapolis Colts signed Badgley again after announcing kicker Spencer Shrader would miss the rest of this season after tearing the ACL and MCL on a hit to his right leg during Sunday's 40-6 victory over the Las Vegas Raiders. Shrader has been placed on injured reserve.

Badgley couldn't have dreamed up a better landing spot.

"I always believed in myself, that was the big thing, and I just wanted to make sure I was ready for an opportunity like this," he said Wednesday. "I told myself it was only a matter of time, so I didn't want to miss an opportunity. So you stay ready, just by kicking, working out."

It sure wasn't an easy road back for the 30-year-old

Florida resident who has played with the Los Angeles Chargers, Tennessee Titans, Chicago Bears, Detroit Lions and Indy during his first six pro seasons. The Colts (4-1) also added him about a month into the 2021 season.

When Badgley got hurt in late July 2024 and the Detroit Lions put him on injured reserve, most figured his playing days might be over. But Badgley had different expectations after making 82.4% of his field goals and scoring 462 career points.

Once healthy enough to kick, he spent his time finding practice spots with goal posts near his Florida home, taking his brother with him to chase balls — hoping to get the call he did Monday. Indy worked out eight kickers Tuesday, with Badgley winning the job.

"I always knew I was going to get back, so I just kept a positive mindset," Badgley said. "I've been in this position before where it's, you know, around Week 5 or 6 or it comes even later. Staying ready is, it's almost like too easy to give up and kind of just get lazy with everything, so it's really about staying

sharp and really continuing to work out and having a great mindset."

He couldn't have landed in a better place.

When the Colts first brought him to training camp in 2018, punter Rigoberto Sanchez was already the holder and Luke Rhodes was already the long snapper. When he returned about a month into the 2021 season, Sanchez and Rhodes still held those jobs.

And nearly needing to deploy their backup plan last weekend — with Sanchez kicking, Rhodes holding and inserting tight end Drew Ogletree at long snapper — the Colts won't have to make any adjustments heading into Sunday's game against Arizona (2-3).

"That's always an important thing. We've known each other for years," Sanchez said. "Luke and I, obviously, have been together so that helps a lot. And we always stay in touch with the kickers that come in and out, not every day but like here and there. We check on them like 'Hey, how you doing?' whatever it is, so, yeah, it's nice to have somebody that we know."



Sue Ogrocki/AP Photo

Cleveland Browns' Joe Flacco warms up before an NFL football game against the Green Bay Packers on Sept. 21 in Cleveland.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF INDIANA
IN THE JEFFERSON
COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT
SS:
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON
CAUSE NO.:
39C01-2509-EU-000063
IN THE MATTER OF THE
UNSUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION OF THE
ESTATE OF CHARLES L.
MYERS, DECEASED
**NOTICE OF
ADMINISTRATION**
NOTICE is hereby given that on **September 16, 2025**, Charles L. Myers II was appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Charles L. Myers, who died on June 17, 2025.
All persons who have claims against this estate whether or not now due, must file the claim in the Office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated at Madison, Indiana, this **16th Day of September, 2025**
/s/Tabitha Eblen
Clerk, Madison County
Circuit Court
(SEAL)

Prepared By:
Colin O. Downey
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LEGAL NOTICE

SUMMONS – SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF MADISON

IN THE MADISON CIRCUIT COURT
CAUSE NO. 48C01-2308-MF-000127

BAWLDGUY NOTE INVESTMENT GROUP 1, LLC
Plaintiff,
vs.

STEVEN B. BURKS (Deceased), UNKNOWN HEIR(S) OF STEVEN B. BURKS, et al.
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SUIT
The State of Indiana to the defendants above named, and any other person who may be concerned: You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above named. The nature of the suit against you is a Complaint on Note and for Foreclosure of Mortgage related to the rights of the parties to the suit in certain real property known as 2402 S P St, Elwood, IN 46036, which is more particularly described as follows: SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF MADISON, STATE OF INDIANA DESCRIBED AS: A STRIP OF GROUND UNIFORM WIDTH OF FIFTY (50) FEET OFF THE ENTIRE EAST END OF LOTS NUMBERED 127, 128 AND 129 IN KIDSWELL'S SECOND ADDITION TO THE CITY OF ELWOOD, INDIANA. PROPERTY ADDRESS 2402 SOUTH P STREET, ELWOOD, INDIANA 46036
PARCEL IDENTIFICATION: 48-04-15-403-152.000-027; 48-04-15-403- 154.000-027; 48-04-15-403-156.000-027
This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following defendant whose whereabouts are unknown: Unknown Heir(s) of Steven B. Burks. If you have a claim for relief against the plaintiff arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer. You must answer the Complaint in writing, by you or your attorney, within thirty (30) days after the last publication of this Notice, and if you fail to do so a judgement will be entered against you for what the plaintiff has demanded.

Date: September 25, 2025
Attest: /s/ Linda S. Smith
Clerk, Madison Circuit Court

Douglas Haman (21328-15)
Attorney for Plaintiff
SANDHU LAW GROUP,LLC
1213 Prospect Avenue, Suite 300
Cleveland, OH 44115
[T] 513-702-2112
[E] doughaman@wdhlaw.com

Notice: This communication is from a debt collector attempting to collect a debt, and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

Historic District Board of Review Legal Notice
MEETING DATE: October 27, 2025, at 5:30 PM
MEETING PLACE: Madison City Hall, 101 W. Main Street Madison, IN 47250 STREAMING LINK: www.youtube.com/@City-ofMadisonIndianaGovernment
A. Roll Call
B. Approval of Minutes
C. Review of Applications
· Tom McPherson – C. of A. to remove rear addition and replace with deck, extending porch, moving stairs. Location: 123 Jefferson St. Zoned: Central Business District (CBD)
· Indiana Landmarks – C. of A. to put an addition onto the back of the house. Location: 111 E. Fourth St. Zoned: Historic District Residential (HDR)
· Brent Eyster – C. of A. to put a pole in backyard to support antenna, attached to brick/eaves. Location: 808 E. Second St. Zoned: Historic District Residential (HDR)
· Dee Dee Schneider – C. of A. to build a rear deck with railings. Location: 228 E. Main St. Zoned: Central Business District (CBD)
· Annette Fultz – C. of A. to replace rotting wood windows with aluminum clad windows and demolish garage at rear of property. Location: 421 Mill St. Zoned: Historic District Residential (HDR)
· Sharon Hampton – C. of A. to build a new 22'x24' garage. Location: 515 East St. Zoned: Historic District Residential (HDR)
· Victoria Howard – C. of A. to build a 22'x22' garage on existing concrete pad on rear of lot. Location: 510 W. Main St. Zoned: Specialty District (SD)
· Caleb Denton – C. of A. to build a 12'x30' shed in side yard. Location: 751 Jefferson St. Zoned: Residential Medium Density (R-8)
· Carolina and Ken Mackinlay – C. of A. to replace windows and repair front porch. Location: 1229 W. Main St. Zoned: Historic District Residential (HDR)
· Orbin Ash – C. of A. to build a 20'x30' pole barn. Location: 608 W. Third St. Zoned: Historic District Residential (HDR)
· Austin Ketcham – C. of A. to replace rotten wood windows with aluminum clad windows. Location: 211 E. Main St. Zoned: Central Business District (CBD)
· Austin Ketcham – C. of A. to build a new house on the lot. Location: 1007 Park Ave. Zoned: Historic District Residential (HDR)
· Austin Ketcham – C. of A. to build a new house on the lot. Location: 1009 Park Ave. Zoned: Historic District Residential (HDR)
D. New/Old Business
E. Staff Report
F. Adjournment
G. Next Meeting: November 24, 2025, at 5:30 PM
For the purpose of hearing those who are for or against said applications, a public hearing will be held on Monday, October 27, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall, 101 W. Main Street, Madison, IN 47250.
This agenda is in DRAFT FORM. Open Door Law does not prohibit the public agency from changing or adding to its agenda during the meeting.
BY ORDER OF THE HISTORIC DISTRICT BOARD OF REVIEW
Brenna Haley, Historic Preservationist
Board Members Appointing Authority Term of Appointment
Chris Cody Mayor 04/08/2025-12/31/2025
Happy Smith Mayor 12/26/2023-12/31/2026
Jed Skillman Mayor 01/23/2024-12/31/2026
Jared Anderson Mayor 02/05/2025-12/31/2025
Ryan Rodgers Mayor 02/05/2025-12/31/2027
Ken McWilliams Mayor 01/04/2024-12/31/2026
William Jewell Mayor 04/22/2024-12/31/2025
City of Madison acknowledges its responsibility to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. In order to assist individuals with disabilities who require special services (i.e. sign interpretative services, alternative audio/visual devices, etc.) for participation in or access to City sponsored public programs, services and/or meetings, the City requests that individuals make requests for these services forty-eight (48) hours ahead of the scheduled program, service and/or meeting. To make arrangements, contact ADA Coordinator at 812-265-8300.

NCAA

FROM PAGE B2

of the committee. "This change allows the NCAA, the conferences, and the member schools to focus on protecting the integrity of college games while, at the same time, encouraging healthy habits for student-athletes who choose to engage in betting activities on professional sports."

This doesn't change the NCAA rule which forbids athletes from betting on college sports. The NCAA also prohibits sharing information about college competitions with bettors. The institution also doesn't allow advertising and sponsorships of NCAA championships by betting sites. Despite the potential change, the committee emphasized that it doesn't endorse betting on sports particularly for student-athletes.

"Division I members are actively working to deregulate NCAA rules where possible, and the Division I Board of Directors remains focused on preserving rules that directly speak to the fairness of college sports competition and the academic successes of college athletes," Virginia Tech President Tim Sands said. "While NCAA members do not encourage student-athletes to engage in sports betting behaviors of any kind, the timing is right to modernize these rules by removing prohibitions against betting on professional sports and focusing on harm reduction strategies for behaviors that

do not impact college sports directly." The change comes as NCAA enforcement caseloads involving sports betting violations have increased in recent years. Last month the NCAA banned three men's college basketball players for sports betting, saying they had bet on their own games at

Fresno State and San Jose State and were able to share thousands of dollars in payouts. The NCAA Committee on Infractions released findings from an enforcement investigation that concluded Mykell Robinson, Steven Vasquez and Jalen Weaver bet on one another's games and/or provided information that

enabled others to do so during the 2024-25 regular season; two of them manipulated their

performances to ensure certain bets were won. The eligibility was permanently revoked.



LEGAL NOTICE

SB#IF2507017
STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON)
IN THE JEFFERSON SUPERIOR COURT
CAUSE NO: 39D01-2508-MF-000819

U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee for LB-Shed Series IV Trust
Plaintiff
vs.
Laura E. Goodwin, et al.
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SUIT
The State of Indiana to the Defendants above named, and any other person who may be concerned: You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above named. The nature of the suit against you is a Complaint on Note and for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described real estate:

LOT NUMBERED SEVENTY-ONE (71), IN HENSLER HEIGHTS, AN ADDITION TO JEFFERSON COUNTY, INDIANA, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 99, IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, INDIANA.

More commonly known as: 2490 Franks Drive, Madison, Indiana 47250

This Summons by Publication is specifically directed to the following named Defendants whose whereabouts are known to me: None

This Summons by Publication is also specifically directed to the following named Defendants whose whereabouts are unknown to me: Jason Goodwin & Laura Goodwin

In addition to the above-named Defendants being served by this Summons, there may be other Defendants who have an interest in this lawsuit. If you have a claim for relief against the Plaintiff arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer.

You must answer the Complaint in writing, by you or your attorney, within thirty (30) days after the Third Notice of Suit, and if you fail to do so, a judgment will be entered against you for what the Plaintiff has demanded.

SOTTILE & BARILE, LLC
By: /s/ Zarkis V. Daroga
Zarkis V. Daroga (17288-49)
Attorney for Plaintiff

ATTEST: 10/1/2025
/s/ Tabitha Eblen
Clerk of the Jefferson Superior Court

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Pope wants Cats to be 'fully engaged' this season

BY KEITH TAYLOR
KENTUCKY TODAY

LEXINGTON — Kentucky coach Mark Pope wants the Wildcats to stay “fully engaged” going into his second season with the Wildcats.

“It’s going to be one of the greatest challenges for us this season in that we all are kind of chasing the same vision,” Pope said during the team’s annual media day Monday.

Pope wants the Wildcats to be engaged on the court and have an open line of communication between the players and the coaching staff the entire season. Off the court, he wants to keep an open dialogue within the program.

Otega Owheh, Kentucky’s leading returning scorer, understands what Pope is looking for when it comes to being fully engaged.

“It means paying attention to the little things,” he said. “They’re little details, but they’re not little, because they add up. If you keep on forgetting to switch your feet in the ball screen defense, like three, four times it adds up and it’s going to end up in points.

‘It may be a little thing, but it ends up adding up, and, you know, it could hurt your team. I think that’s what Coach means when he says ‘fully engaged’ ... just paying attention to so-called little things and not having it hurt you in the



Keith Taylor/Kentucky Today
Kentucky coach Mark Pope smiles during the team’s annual media day on Monday in Lexington

long run.”

The Kentucky coach also wants the Wildcats to focus on individual and team growth, another element to cement his team’s foundation this season.

“Sometimes we get confused (because) we think that what we’re really chasing is achievement, and that is wrong,” he said. “What we’re chasing is growth. It is not achievement. Achievement is false, fake and it tricks you. It is growth.”

He added his returning players, including Owheh, Brandon Garrison, Trent Noah

and Collin Chandler, are “actually living that right now.”

“Growth is what brings joy and pride and belief, and it makes you walk in the room differently. Achievement is fine, but it’s fickle, and so out of these second-year guys, we’re seeing this amazing growth. They feel it. They’re different. They walk into the room differently. I love it. It’s the best thing about coaching.”

That growth is also evident within the coaching staff as the Wildcats build on last year’s success, the Kentucky coach said, making things “incredibly fun.”

“As a head coach, you do your best with short and limited information about positioning guys in the responsibilities where they’re going to excel the most,” he said. “Then there’s also this growing process of a year ago, at this time our staff still had so many questions about, like, Well, what do you do about this, and how do we do this, and everything else?”

This season, Pope said his staff has “gravitated guys more into the places where they can be stars on the staff.”

“We still have so much growth to accomplish as a staff, but I feel like we’re in a way different spot,” he said. “I’m grateful for that. I think we’re functioning well together.”

And it starts at the top with Pope, who hasn’t changed his mind about coaching “the biggest thing in basketball.”

“I thought it was going to be the most challenging. It’s the most challenging. I thought I would love it more than I’ve ever loved a job and probably more than I will ever love a job in my entire life, and I’m pretty sure that’s true.

“I thought this was the greatest fanbase where the connection matters so much, and I still think that’s true. I think it’s just — I mean, I just am grateful that we get to live in it. I’m really grateful."



David Campbell
Madison’s Maggie Stivers tracks down the ball during the Cubs’ 9-0 win over North Harrison in the girls soccer sectional opener on Tuesday.

MADISON

FROM PAGE B1

Trinity Lutheran, a 5-0 winner over Salem on Wednesday,

in the sectional semifinals on Thursday. With a win, the Hilltoppers will take on either third-ranked Providence or Christian Academy of Indiana in the championship Saturday night.

FLUKE

FROM PAGE B1

which had banged off the bar.

While the goals by Southwestern staked the Rebels to the lead but it didn't last long. Shawe's Gus Grote answered Johnson's score with a goal of his own just a minute later on a brilliant shot from 20 yards out and hit the equalizer in the 54th minute.

"Unfortunately we're used to coming back," Shawe coach Patrick Bear said.

For Bear, the most frustrating thing about the game was the Hilltoppers' inability to take advantage of scoring opportunities. Shawe had 11 shots in the game but only three were on frame, compared to nine shots by Southwestern with four on goal. It was a difference-making statistic according to Bear.

"I'm sure Southwestern will

disagree, but every goal they had, we gave them. But you know what? Sometimes that's what it takes. They finished their opportunities. We didn't. That's the difference in the game," Bear said. "That's been our problem all year. I'll be honest, if we finished 40% of our shots, we're probably coming into the sectional undefeated, because our defense is exemplary and our keeper is one of the best in the conference. But the name

of the game is scoring more goals than the other team, and we didn't do that today."

That inability to finish attempts proved huge when Southwestern's Julio Moreno set up for a free kick about 30 yards from the goal. The senior sent a screamer into the box where it was deflected by a Shawe player off his head. But the deflection only went high enough to sail over the head of Shawe goalie Tate Wiczorek and into the net.

The final 13 minutes were a scramble as Shawe desperately tried to tie the match once again, but to no avail. Southwestern keeper Tryson Warren smothered the Hilltoppers' only shot to preserve the win and send the Rebels into the semifinals.

"That two goal lead was huge, especially because we were going into the wind," Rogers said. "Last year we had a big lead, and they scored right before the half, and then again,

this time, something similar happened. But we had to keep attacking and keep moving forward and trying to get more rather than just settle in and defend. And I thought we did a pretty good job of that tonight."

Southwestern will now take on Trinity Lutheran, 8-7 after Wednesday's 7-1 semifinal win over Austin — in the sectional championship game on Saturday. The Rebels will be aiming for their third sectional title in the past five years.

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			4		9			5
	4	1		6		7		
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		9	1		4		2	
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6					3			

SUDOKU

How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

1		8		3				
					7	3		
		9	4	2	8			
2	5						8	
		6				2		
	3						7	9
			4	7		6	1	
		9						
				6		5		4

SUDOKU

How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

HOROSCOPE

OCT. 10

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Share good news – if you’ve got a great new insight or an epic hack, pass it on to a friend who could use a lift. Serve others with grace and beauty to receive these back from the Universe tenfold. A disagreement over shared resources could linger.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Old attitudes, even habits, about scarcity versus abundance may be shifting in a helpful direction. However, a partner might not be able to get on board yet and pushing now might only create push-back. Be patient, let emerging facts be the persuasion.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Some things you may have previously thought to be non-negotiable may be shifting slowly but dramatically, you could find that new goals are coming to the forefront and some old desires are receding. Continue to invest in yourself.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Not every anxiety needs to carry the same weight as a real-time, bonafide threat, sometimes it’s just the stars passing through with a temporary worry. Walking yourself through a risk assessment can relieve your mind or show you what to do.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Blow off steam with friends, it’s a day that calls for some freedom and a fun reset if that’s doable – even a quick happy hour. Creatives could have the inspo and the inner push to initiate or complete now. Work around grumpy folks.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Not everyone may understand your vision if it’s a radical departure from their comfort zone. If you dance to a unique tune you may need to sing it by yourself for a while before kindred souls hear it and step forward.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Finding the right approach might require a little trial and error before things take off, but the opening and potential for powerful improvements will be supporting and helping you for some time to come. Believe in yourself and your future.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Modulate your energy and tone, not to make yourself small, just that current stars could make you seem overly insistent or aggro now. If you need to get something done, today is the best day until later next week.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) It could seem important to make an impact now, but your natural vibe doesn’t need to be forced to be recognized. This could be a tough period to dive into deep inner work, but a great time to invest in your support network.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Find a way to pay it forward; gratitude amplifies abundance and every gift given returns to you multiplied. Friendships can change as people’s energy and availability changes, it’s probably not personal.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) There could be more grace and hope in your financial situation than you can see just yet, give the energies time to form up into something tangible. If a groundbreaking insight pops up, share it with family.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Don’t push any situation, person, or idea that might not be fully-formed or fully-vetted. A change at home could become comfortable faster than you think. A partner or pet could offer sweetness if you’ve temporarily run out.

Sudoku solution

8	7	2	8	4	6	5	1	9
9	6	4	1	7	5	2	8	3
6	1	5	8	2	9	7	4	3
1	9	6	2	5	8	4	7	3
7	2	8	4	8	1	6	9	5
4	5	8	9	6	7	8	2	1
2	4	1	7	8	5	9	5	6
6	8	7	5	9	2	1	4	8
5	9	6	1	4	7	8	7	2

Jumble solution

TABLET ADMIT HOMILY DEFECT
When it came to whether worms or lures attract more fish, it was — DE-BAIT-ABLE

Sleuth solution

CASSANDRA
ARMADILLO
KOUFAX
NICKNAME
ELIZABETH

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

BTYBA
DTIAM
MHIOYL
ETDFAE

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“ - - - - - - - - - - ”

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Nothing beats the real thing. The fish want the action of a lure.

WHEN IT CAME TO WHETHER WORMS OR LURES ATTRACT MORE FISH, IT WAS ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

WORD SLEUTH

GIVEN NAMES WITH DOUBLE LETTERS

R N J G D A X U R O L J G D A
N R X V S P B N K E I F C A X
V E E S Q O O R M E L J H E C
A X L F V E T M E T R P N L J
H A L L I M A C R T F D B Y X
C A S S A N D R A E T V T R P
K O S M U E N B E N L E K I G
E E D E B R Z E X N O L N W U
J T L R Q R O T J A N R I Y N
L N A L L A J T I G F O A U L
D C A Y Y D X Y W V T S C A G

Thursday’s unlisted clue: KOUFAX

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Friday’s unlisted clue hint: NICKNAME FOR ELIZABETH

Aaron	Brett	Darren	Jessie
Allan	Camilla	Emmanuel	Kelly
Allen	Cassandra	Guillermo	Lynette
Annette	Conner	Jennifer	

SHEFFER CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Eggs
4 Hosp. section
7 Surgical tool
12 Recycling container
13 Chess piece
14 Saturn features
15 “Do — say!”
16 Care-taker of historical records
18 Witticism
19 Star
20 Speedy steed
22 Sun. talk
23 Smack a baseball
27 Roker and Michaels
29 Sagittarius
31 Ill will
34 New Zealand native
35 Meghan and Harry’s son
37 Raggedy doll
38 Music’s Bee —
39 — de mer

DOWN

1 “Becom-ing” memoirist
2 Golfer’s wear
3 “West Side Story” role
4 Apple variety
5 Loving touch
6 Mom’s brother
7 Baby’s bed
8 Actress Tyler
9 Singer DiFranco
10 Brit. sports cars
11 Calif. clock setting
17 Olympian queen
21 Tub sessions
23 Meager

41 Itsy-bitsy
45 Leg bone
47 Actress Long
48 Frank Lloyd Wright, for one
52 Roman 650
53 Direct (to)
54 Madre’s brother
55 Presidential nickname
56 Garden figurine
57 Tree fluid
58 Ninny

24 One of the five W’s
25 — Lingus
26 Part of TNT
28 Muumuu accessory
30 Pres. after LBJ
31 Show fatigue
32 Season opener?
33 Decorate cupcakes
36 Send forth
37 Actress Silverstone
40 Assist a scammer
42 Mumbai’s land
43 Shaving mishaps
44 Some door locks
45 Ersatz swing
46 Perched on
48 Bol. neighbor
49 Stimp’s pal
50 Corp. money exec
51 Haw’s partner

Solution time: 25 mins.

Today’s solution

S	S	V		D	V	S		E	W	O	N	G	
E	X	I		O	I	L		H	E	J	E	R	
T	O	D		J	O	B	L	I	H	O	B	V	
V	I	N		V	I	B	I	L					
A	N	I		T	V	Y		S	E	E	G		
			N	N	V		E	I	H	O	B	V	
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I	H	O	C	R	V		S	T	V				
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S	G	N	I		N	V	W			N	I	B	
D	I	A	M		C	L	O			I			

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48 49 50 51 52

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56 57 58

HOROSCOPE

OCT. 11

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Sinking stars beginning today put you back into the caution zone. New meetings or beginnings should wait until at least Thursday of next week. A quiet day at home could feel just right; a day trip should be checked out in advance.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Giving keeps the wheel of reciprocity spinning and abundance flowing to all. If a relationship isn’t offering a lot now, look at the longer pattern to see if there has been enough balance, but put a pin in any decisions for a few days at least.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) An anxiety that crops up seemingly out of nowhere could just be the influence of today’s stars – things aren’t likely to be as dire as they could feel for a few hours. A bottleneck in your career or worldly sector won’t last forever.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You could be doubting your look or your authenticity but today isn’t a day to make any important shift. Let any anxiety pass you by, make your moves on days with better odds for the right outcomes. Beyond that, whatever else is going on – let them.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) The dearest friends know your song, too – let them remind you of it if you forget. Networking with power players could bring new dreams, but only on days with strong odds, cherry-pick invitations and opportunities for best dates.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) There could be a way to put your heart more into your work, consider changes that could let you bring more of your love and your magic into earning a living/ making a life. There is always hope, don’t let discouragement overtake you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) If you’re advocating, be sure it’s for something real and not a fantasy. A day with a blend of quiet inspiration and connection with others could strike the right balance. Leave financial matters alone under below-zero stars.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Enthusiasm in a pitch is not the same as an in-depth understanding, investigate before you sign on. Cooperation could be difficult if everyone wants to be the center of attention or the leader of the pack.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) If you are dating, schedule first meetups on positive days in the sky for best odds. An ongoing dating relationship could solidify soon. If you’re in a committed relationship, consider small shifts which could make a big difference.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Healing can come from surprising directions, always be heads-up for miracles. An ambitious local project could get off the ground soon. Moods will always ebb and flow, flow into spaces and activities that feel right.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) A hater fueled by envy might tip their hand. Happy people aren’t haters, remind yourself of your value and keep going. A financial restriction isn’t forever but could last a little while longer. Make something creative.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Switching up small things around your living space could be satisfying, don’t make big changes or big decisions until stars improve later next week. Career potential continues to be on the increase.

Sudoku solution

4	6	5	2	9	8	3	1	7
7	2	8	5	1	8	6	9	4
8	1	9	6	4	4	2	8	5
6	7	4	9	2	5	1	8	3
5	8	2	1	8	7	9	6	4
9	8	1	8	4	6	1	5	2
1	9	7	8	5	2	4	6	8
8	4	8	7	6	1	5	2	9
2	5	6	4	8	9	8	7	1

Jumble solution

TRUNK SPICY FACTOR PELVIS
getting plans drawn up was the — FIRST STEP
When it came to building their new staircase,

Sleuth solution

ARMADILLO
KOUFAX
NICKNAME
ELIZABETH

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NRTKU
CIPYS
CFTROA
SLPEIV

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Answer here: - - - - - - - - - -

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

That’s the updated look I was hoping for. Great! Now we can show these to contractors.

WHEN IT CAME TO BUILDING THEIR NEW STAIRCASE, GETTING PLANS DRAWN UP WAS THE ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

WORD SLEUTH

REMOVE THE ODD LETTERS TO MAKE A NEW WORD

D V T R P N L E L K C U B N U
J H C E A R M A D I L L O C A
F Y H W V T R N E P N I L A S
R K A I I G A E T E T C T E R
I B I N Z H X W C A U T N L E
E E R T E O H S E N O S A C L
N R S E P O M R N R U L R R P
D E R R U C C O N J I O O I M
G F E A D B A E O Y X W N C A
U T S C Q P Y O C N L K G N S
J H G T S I Y B B O H F I E A

Friday’s unlisted clue: BETTY

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Saturday’s unlisted clue hint: These Often Surround a Table

Announce	Creation	Hobbyist	Samplers
Armadillo	Encircle	Ignorant	Shoetree
Attorney	Freehand	Interact	Unbuckle
Connected	Friend	Occurred	

SHEFFER CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Cranberry territory
4 Slightly open
8 Only
12 Prefix with gram or center
13 Theater box
14 Roman 404
15 Long, skinny fish
16 Spanish model
17 Sastre
19 Pudding variety
18 Heavy weight haulers
21 McCourt memoir
22 Calendar abbr.
23 Toy bricks
26 Prom rental
27 However
30 Break suddenly
31 Indian lentil dish
32 Olympian Lipinski
33 Business card no.
34 Retrieve

35 Features of unicorns
36 Some fridges
37 Klutz
38 Amount-wise, great thing to look or feel like
45 Pop choice
46 Clarified butter
47 Flamenco cheer
48 Hibernia
49 1492 vessel
50 Buddhist sect
51 Monopoly card
52 Freshens a lawn, say

53 Even so
DOWN

1 Com-plaint
2 Autobahn auto
3 Arizona river
4 Excuses
5 Singer Norah
6 Matured
7 Calming
8 Wash thoroughly
9 Like
10 Defeat
11 Holiday lead-ins
19 Sporty car roof
20 Actor Harrison
23 “Encore!”
40 “Would — to you?”
41 Dayton’s state
42 Warm and snug
43 Swiss-born painter Paul
44 Faxed

Solution time: 26 mins.

Today’s solution

J	E	A		S	D	O	S		Q	E	E	
N	E	Z		V	N	I	N		N	I	B	E
E	T	O		E	E	H	9		V	T	O	
S	X	O		N	B	N	O		I	T	I	W
S	N	B	O	H		I	E	9		T	E	I
V	H	V	I		T	V	O					
L	N	B		X	N	I						
S	X	O		N	B		J	O	E			
E	O	I		S	E	N	I					
A	I	D		C	9	O	T					
E	T	O	S		H	V	I					

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

12 13 14

15 16 17

18 19 20

21 22

23 24 25 26 27 28 29

30 31 32

33 34 35

36 37

38 39 40 41 42 43 44

45 46 47

48 49 50

51 52 53



Matt Kelley/AP Photo

Team owner Michael Jordan looks on during a NASCAR Cup Series auto race at Darlington Raceway on Aug. 31 in Darlington, S.C.



Mike McCarn/AP Photo

CEO and Chairman of NASCAR Jim France, right, along with the Executive Vice President of NASCAR Lesa Kennedy announce the Landmark Award to Edsel Ford II the Hall of Fame induction ceremony on Jan. 31, 2020, in Charlotte, N.C.

NASCAR seeks new mediator in antitrust suit as Jordan's 23XI Racing pushes back

BY JENNA FRYER
AP AUTO RACING WRITER

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — NASCAR has asked a federal court for a judicial settlement conference so that an independent judge can mediate the antitrust suit filed by Michael Jordan-owned 23XI Racing and Front Row Motorsports.

The two teams pushed back in their own late Monday night filing that it wants to continue working with mediator Jeffrey Mishkin, the former executive vice president and chief legal officer of the NBA who has been negotiating between the two sides this year.

“Mr. Mishkin has invested a great deal of time learning this case and meeting with the parties,” 23XI and Front Row said in the filing. “Plaintiffs have thus requested that NASCAR continue to engage with them via Mr. Mishkin or to make a settlement offer directly to Plaintiffs’ counsel, but NASCAR has not responded to those requests and instead filed this motion.

“It seems NASCAR is not happy with the diagnosis and wants to seek a second opinion.”

The teams argued Mishkin “has significant expertise in complex, sports-related antitrust disputes and has served as an arbitrator or mediator for the international Court of Arbitration for Sport, the America’s Cup, FIFA,

and the NFL, among others.” The teams also argue that “starting over” with a new mediator is “less likely, not more likely, to lead to resolution.”

The dueling motions come as NASCAR seeks a summary judgement to dismiss the case before the scheduled Dec. 1 start of trial. A hearing on that motion is scheduled for Oct. 21.

At issue is the protection of the charter system that is at the heart of NASCAR’s business model and the focal point of the court fight. The charter system is NASCAR’s version of a franchise model. A charter guarantees owners spots in the field, a base amount of revenue each year, and according to NASCAR, has created more than \$1.5 billion in equity value for its teams since 2016.

A year ago, 13 of the 15 teams re-signed when they believed two-plus years of negotiations would not lead to a better deal. 23XI, co-owned by Jordan and three-time Daytona 500 winner Denny Hamlin, and Front Row Motorsports, owned by entrepreneur Bob Jenkins, went to court instead.

For months, the other 13 teams have privately complained that the lawsuit is creating uncertainty over the future of NASCAR. Mishkin has made no progress toward a settlement and NASCAR now wants a federal judge other than U.S. District Judge Kenneth Bell, who is presiding over the case, to hear

both sides and advise on a resolution.

Most of the top teams in NASCAR last week submitted declarations calling for a settlement and protection of the charter system, which NASCAR noted in its Monday night filing to the U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina.

“The parties’ readiness to resolve this matter, along with the interests of others in the sport and the Court to see this case resolved, suggest a judicial settlement conference would be a meaningful way to facilitate a settlement,” NASCAR wrote.

Both sides have shown a willingness to talk, but no progress has been made.

Through a judicial settlement conference, NASCAR hopes to bring in a judge who can help direct the talks and offer insight into how a jury might interpret the complex NASCAR antitrust case.

The court must approve NASCAR’s request.

All sides have said they are open to settlement, including Jordan, who also added after an August hearing he was willing to take it to trial if necessary.

“I look forward to going down with the fire. If I have to fight this to the end, for the betterment of the sport, I will,” he said outside federal court. “We’ve always been open to a settlement. Always have been. We’ve never taken that off the table.”



Darron Cummings/AP Photo

Leah Pruett and her husband Tony Stewart speak during a news conference on Dec. 7, 2023, in Indianapolis.

Stewart jokes about sleeping on the couch if he wins drag race against wife Pruett

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

EULESS, Texas — Tony Stewart has been joking that he made sure the new couch he and his wife bought was one he could sleep on comfortably if he wins a drag race against her.

Well, his team does still win if Leah Pruett beats him in an NHRA race when they begin competing against each other next season.

That is when Pruett will be back in her seat for Tony Stewart Racing, the one her NASCAR Hall of Fame husband has filled since she stepped aside ahead of the 2024 season to focus on starting a family and the birth of their son later that year. Stewart will then be driving a Top Fuel dragster for Elite Motorsports.

“I’ve always looked at it as it’s a double lose for me, that I can’t win no matter what,” Stewart said Wednesday. “If I win, I get kicked to the couch is what I always jokingly told everybody. And if I get beat by her, then all I do is get all the messages from my

buddies about how my wife kicked my (rear).”

Stewart said last month that he was turning the TSR seat back over to Pruett after keeping it warm for her, then a week later said he would drive for Elite Motorsports. That has them racing against each other even though those teams have a marketing alliance.

“Leah’s the one that talked me into it. I was kind of against it because I didn’t want to create tension in our family first and foremost. She was the one that goes, well, you’re kind of thinking about this too much,” Stewart said.

“As much as it on paper could look like a really bad idea, I think it’s a really cool opportunity for us. Not a lot of people get to get an opportunity to race with their significant other,” he said. “Leah and I have always been able to race together, but to literally compete against each other is something different that we’ve never had that opportunity to do in the past, and something that I think we’re both going to enjoy.”

When asked what it will

be like racing against his wife, Stewart responded, “really easy honestly.” Different from dirt track or NASCAR racing, when cars could be sliding into each other, drag racers control their cars in their own lanes.

The 54-year-old Stewart will race at the Texas Fall Nationals in Ennis this weekend, but first took part Wednesday night in his annual fundraiser for Speedway Children’s Charities at Texas Motor Speedway. His Smoke Show that started as racing fantasy camp in 2008 and has raised nearly \$2 million, was a bowling tournament this year.

“There’s a lot of people that don’t necessarily have an interest in driving race cars, and just about everybody can bowl,” said Stewart, who could be more interactive than when at the track. “I’d spend half the time and half the night in the car with a helmet on, but I can’t hardly hear what anybody’s saying.”

While describing himself as a terrible bowler, Stewart said the worst part is that he has no excuse. He has two lanes in his basement.



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Disease reduces local bag limit on antlerless deer

BY PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

An increase in the number deer deaths from epizootic hemorrhagic disease (EHD) cases will impact harvest limits in several local counties including Jefferson and Switzerland.

As a result of EHD effects, the antlerless bag limit in Jefferson, Scott and Jackson counties will be reduced from four deer to three, the limit in Jennings County will be reduced from four deer to

two, and the limit in Switzerland, Bartholomew and Martin counties will be reduced from three antlerless deer to two.

Jennings County leads the state in the number of reported deer deaths due to EHD.

At the most recent count, Jennings County has reported 283 deer deaths while Jackson County has 231, Martin County 220, Bartholomew County 126, Switzerland County 110, Jefferson County

90, and Scott County 71.

As of Sept. 26, Indiana DNR has received and verified 951 EHD reports, involving 1,708 sick or dead deer from 20 counties with 12 counties reporting more than 30 deaths.

The impact of EHD will be evaluated after the deer hunting season and changes may be made for the 2026-2027 season. Ongoing updates are available at IN.gov/EHD.

The statewide bad limit remains at six.